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CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c.	78
Leading Articles:—	
Herr Von Brandt and the Audience Question.....	79
The Situation in the Straits Settlements	78
The Hongkong Military Contribution	78
Transit Dues in Tonkin	78
Landlords and the New Sanitary Requirements.....	79
The War.....	79
St. George's Fall	80
"Ragged Robbin" at Government House	81
Supreme Court.....	81
Taipei's Resumption Arbitration Board	81
Launch of a Gunboat at Kowloon Docks.....	81
The City of Rio de Janeiro.....	81
The Accident to the N. P. Steamer <i>Victoria</i>	82
The Execution of Au Chun and Li Pong.....	82
The House of Nazareth	82
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co.	83
West Point Building Co., Limited.....	83
Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co., Limited	83
The Kowloon Land and Building Co., Limited	84
The New Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited	84
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited.....	84
Raub	85
Hongkong Rifle Association	85
Cricket	85
Hongkong Volunteers	86
Football	86
Death of Prince Arisugawa of Japan	86
The Repair of the <i>Chenyuen</i>	86
A Legislative Assembly for Siam	87
The Situation in Peking	87
Earthquake in Tokyo and Yokohama.....	87
Hongkong News	87
Commercial	89
Shipping.....	91

BIRTHS.

On the 25th instant, at the Government Civil Hospital, the wife of the Rev. E. B. BEAUCHAMP, of Pakhoi, of a daughter.

At Chefoo, on 21st January, the wife of W. N. BEAUCLEER, Esq., First Secretary H.B.M. Legation, Peking, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 22nd of January, at H.B.M. Consulate-General, Shanghai, before Geo. Jamieson, Esq., Acting Consul-General, and afterwards at the Cathedral by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., EDWARD PROVIS, younger son of the late Major E. T. WICKHAM, 60th Rifles, to MARY BEATRICE, third daughter of the late Hon. J. CECIL PHILLIPPO, M.D., of Kingston, Jamaica, W. Indies.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 3rd January arrived, per P. M. steamer *City of Peking*, on the 29th January (26 days); the Canadian mail of the 7th January arrived, per C. P. steamer *Empress of India*, on the 29th January (22 days); and the English mail of the 28th December arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Kaiser-i-Hind*, on the 30th January (32 days).

The rates of subscription to the *Hongkong Weekly Press* are \$12 yearly, \$7 half-yearly, and \$4 quarterly, payable in advance; the credit rates are \$13.50, \$8, and \$4.50 respectively. Postage \$2 per annum additional.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Kung Taotai, Civil Commander of Port Arthur, has at last arrived at Peking, and was immediately turned over the Board of Punishments.

The Manila Exhibition was formally opened on the 23rd inst.

The English community of Hongkong gave a St. George's Ball on the 23rd instant.

The annual meeting of the Medical Missionary Society in China was held at Canton on the 24th instant.

A rather severe earthquake was experienced at Tokyo and Yokohama on the 18th inst., which did some damage to buildings.

A gunboat built for the Spanish Government for service in the Philippines was launched from the Kowloon Docks on the 24th instant.

On the 29th instant the two murderers Au Chun and Li Pong, who were concerned in the Winglok Street raid, were executed in Victoria Gaol.

H.I.H. the Crown Prince of Japan, who was a lieutenant in the Army, was promoted to the rank of Captain on the 4th inst., at the age of fifteen.

A Legislative Assembly has been established for Siam. The King reserves to himself power to legislate independently of the Assembly when he thinks it desirable so to do.

Langfeldt & Co., Limited, of Yokohama, importers, shipchangers, etc., working with a capital of \$100,000, present a report for the half-year ended 31st December which shows the net profits for that period to have been \$28,372. It is proposed to pay a dividend of 15 per cent., give a bonus of \$2,000 to the Company's employees, and carry forward \$1,372.

The annual report of the Shanghai Branch of the China Association has been published. The Committee, on Mr. Hannen's departure from Shanghai on leave, again addressed Her Majesty's Government, requesting the separation of the offices of Chief Justice and Consul-General in Shanghai. The correspondence on this subject is included in the report.

The N. P. steamer *Victoria*, which left Hongkong on the 23rd instant for Tacoma, arrived at Moji on the 28th and whilst mooring was carried by the strong current against the bows of another steamer, sustaining a serious fracture in her side. It was intended to place a temporary patch over the hole and then proceed to Kobe, where the vessel will be surveyed.

The annual report of the Kowloon Land and Building Co., Limited, shows that the balance of profit and loss account for the year, after writing off all charges and expenses, amounted to \$4,419. The directors recommend that a dividend of 7 per cent. be paid, which, after writing off the directors' and auditors' fees, will leave a balance of \$47 to be carried forward to the credit of a new profit and loss account.

The half-yearly report of the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co., Limited, shows that after paying running expenses, salaries, premia of insurance, repairs, and all other outgoings, there remains, including \$24,752 brought forward from last account, the sum of \$113,751 at credit of profit and loss account. From this sum the directors recommend that a dividend for the half year of 6 per cent. on capital, or \$96,000, be paid to shareholders, and that the balance of \$17,751 be carried forward to new account.

The property of the Shanghai Dock Company has been disposed of. Messrs. Farnham & Co., Limited, purchased the Dock property for the sum of Tls. 150,000, and the China Merchants S. N. Co. bought the Lower Wharf property for Tls. 180,500. Messrs. Farnham's offer was the only one made for the Dock property, but there were two offers for the Lower Wharf.

From the half-yearly report to be submitted to a general meeting of the Grand Hotel (Yokohama) shareholders on the 30th inst., we take the following:—The net profit for the half year, including balance brought forward from the 30th June, 1894, and after providing for general expenses, directors' and auditors' fees, interest and depreciation, and after writing off bad debts, amounts to \$9,718.14, which it is proposed to apply as follows:—In payment of a dividend of 3 per cent. for the half year \$7,500, balance to new account \$2,318.14

There would appear to be little doubt, says the *Japan Gazette*, that the new Japanese warship *Izumi-kan*, which arrived nobody knew whence, is the Chilean warship *Esmeralda*. We understand that a letter was recently received at the Yokohama Post Office addressed to the "Second Commander, *Esmeralda*," which was delivered to the second officer of the schooner *Esmeralda*, Capt. Harrison, now in port. As the recipient found the letter was not intended for him he returned it to the Postal authorities. The letter, it seems, was posted in Chili, and we believe before being delivered to the schooner *Esmeralda* was sent to the Foreign Office and returned to Yokohama.

The *Bangkok Times* makes the announcement that the choice of a successor to the late Crown Prince has been made and that the ceremony of proclamation was to take place on the 17th instant. The King has determined to appoint as Crown Prince and Heir-Apparent his son Chow Fa Maha Vajiravadh, eldest son of the Second Queen, born on 1st January, 1881, and who is now studying under special tutorship at Ascot, near London. It may be presumed that His Royal Highness will return to Siam at the end of the year, on the commencement of the holidays, so as to be present at the cremation ceremonies of his late brother and afterwards to go through the religious ceremony of his own investiture as Crown Prince.

The Japanese have now completely invested Wai-hai-wei. The Chinese are said to be determined to make a vigorous defence, but after their performance at Port Arthur and throughout the campaign the probability is that the invaders will soon be masters of the fortress. In Manchuria the operations of the Japanese of late have been directed to cutting off the retreat of the Chinese army defending Moukden. The peace negotiations are about to be entered upon, but it is not generally expected that they will prove successful. The Chinese Envoys, Chang Ying-huan and Shao Yu-lin, with their suite, were to leave Shanghai for Japan in the *Empress of China* on the 26th instant, and the steamer was to receive orders to stop at Shimonoseki, whence the Japanese will convey the Embassy to Hiroshima. Mr. Foster, the foreign adviser to the Chinese peace mission, arrived at Yokohama by the *Empress of India* on the 21st inst. Mr. Dunn, the American Minister, left Tokyo for Yokohama to meet him. In the afternoon Mr. Foster went to Tokyo and had an interview with Mr. Hayashi, the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs.

HERR VON BRANDT AND THE AUDIENCE QUESTION.

Herr VON BRANDT, the late German Minister to China, has, we note, been making a defence of the now happily discarded and discredited policy of the Ministers at Peking in accepting audience in the Hall of Tributary Nations. This designation of the Hall, he maintains, is incorrect. In his "Chats about China" now appearing in the *London and China Express* he says:—"The foreign press in China having got hold of the question, reproached the Representatives with having submitted to an indignity by accepting to be received in the hall of tributary nations used for the reception of envoys sent by them. This whole statement has no foundation; the hall in question has never borne the name given to it by the press, nor been used for the purposes attributed to it; the only fault which might have been found with the arrangements of 1873, that instead of making the reception of the foreign envoys by the Emperor the acknowledgment of their right to such an audience, it placed it rather in the light of a favour granted by the Chinese, was overlooked by the critics, who never went further than the outer shell of the question." It so happens that the Press was right and that Herr VON BRANDT is wrong. If the hall was unobjectionable why was the Tzu Kuang Ko abandoned for the Chang Kuang Tien? The latter in turn has now been abandoned for a hall within the precincts of the palace. Sir THOMAS WADE, whose authority is at least equal to that of Herr VON BRANDT, speaking of the audience of 1873, says, "There was much dissatisfaction among Englishmen . . . that we should have been received in a hall usually reserved for tributaries." Here we have a distinct admission that the hall was reserved for tributaries, and the admission is emphasised by the following sentence:—"I cannot say that I altogether shared these criticisms. The ceremony was entirely different." That is to say, though the hall was objectionable, Sir THOMAS WADE thinks the objection was removed in whole or in part by the difference in the ceremony. We do not agree with Sir THOMAS WADE, but his testimony sufficiently refutes Herr VON BRANDT's contention as to the character of the hall itself. Nor is Herr VON BRANDT any more correct in saying that the press overlooked the fact that the arrangements in 1873, instead of making the reception of the foreign envoys by the Emperor the acknowledgment of their right to such an audience, placed it rather in the light of a favour granted by the Chinese. That, in fact, was the chief burden of the complaint, and if the attack was directed more particularly to the selection of the Tzu Kuang Ko it was because that selection was the circumstance that mainly showed the character the Chinese wished to give to the audience, namely, not that of an audience granted as a right to the representatives of sovereigns of equal dignity with that of the Emperor, but a concession granted to inferiors. It is owing to the insistence of the press that the matter has now been placed on a more satisfactory footing, and the utterances of Herr VON BRANDT, and, to a lesser extent, those of Sir THOMAS WADE, show what was the strength of the opposition that had to be overcome.

THE SITUATION IN THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

The political situation in the Straits Settlements at the present time is interesting and peculiar if not satisfactory. The majority of the Singapore unofficial members of Council and the Justices of the Peace have

resigned over the Military Contribution question, but Penang resolutely refuses to join in the movement, and in fact, if the *Penang Gazette* may be taken as a correct exponent of public feeling in the Settlement, sneers at it. Mr. SHELFORD's speech at the recent great meeting at Singapore our Penang contemporaries characterise as nothing but froth and gas. "Why," it asks, "should not the Home Government measure its exactions by the length of the Colony's purse? It is right that every part of the Empire should pay according to its abilities for the protection of the whole. It is right that the rich should pay for the poor. The Colony of the Straits Settlements and her dependencies can well afford the demands of the Home Government if only the exaction is properly and fairly distributed over the area under British Protection." The latter allusion is to the question of whether the Native States should be invited to join in the contribution, a side issue with which we need not at present concern ourselves. The position taken up at Penang is that resignation over the Military Contribution question, while there are other more important matters to be urged, such as the granting of an unofficial majority in Council, is an impractical protest. "There must," says the *Gazette*, "be a Military Contribution. No amount of protesting can get over that. The question of amount necessarily follows, and that is one for argument." And Penang having grievances of its own, which the Singapore unofficials instead of trying to remove are accused of assisting to fasten on the Settlement, now refuses to support those gentlemen when "they choose to try to retire amidst a fizzle of cheap local glory." So, while the Singapore unofficials resign and are apparently supported in doing so by the Singapore community, at Penang an agitation is being carried on for a fuller measure of popular representation and a specific demand is put forward that the right of nominating a member of Council now possessed by the Chamber of Commerce should be transferred to an electoral body with a broader basis. The Singapore Chamber of Commerce has just been asked to nominate a member in place of the one who has resigned. It is expected that the Chamber will decline to do so, thus signifying its approval of the policy of resignation. At the same time Penang makes representations to the effect that a Chamber of Commerce is not a fit and proper body to exercise the right of nomination. Thus the two Settlements are pulling in opposite directions, and the effect of the resignation of the Singapore members must be diminished by the non-support or active opposition of Penang. It is unfortunate that unanimity was not secured before resignation was decided on, but the partial resignation which has taken place will probably not be wholly without effect.

THE HONGKONG MILITARY CONTRIBUTION.

In connection with the Military Contribution question the case of the Straits Settlements has frequently been represented as harder than that of Hongkong, inasmuch as the percentage of revenue required to meet the charge is higher. There is one important factor in the calculation, however, that appears to have been overlooked. In the Straits there are municipalities for the towns of Singapore, Penang, and Malacca, each with its separate revenue distinct from the colonial revenue. In Hongkong there is no such division, the whole revenue, alike for municipal and general purposes, being collected by the Govern-

ment. In the Straits the estimated revenue for 1895, enhanced by increased taxation, is \$3,973,521, and the contribution of £90,000, taken at the exchange of the day, comes to about 22½ per cent. on that amount. But if to the above revenue be added that of the various municipalities, which was in 1893 \$1,162,862, we arrive at a total of \$5,596,383, on which sum the contribution amounts to about 16 per cent. only, instead of 22½ per cent. Hongkong's estimated revenue for 1895 is \$2,079,526, and the military contribution of £40,000, taken at the exchange of 2s., amounts to 19 per cent. of that sum. As a matter of fact, therefore, we are worse off than our neighbours in the south by some three per cent. We have not been threatened with any immediate increase in the amount demanded from us, and not only would any increase be inequitable, but the colony could not afford to pay it. The Imperial Government is apparently satisfied that Hongkong has been squeezed as far as is reasonable and would probably be willing to let matters remain on their present basis for some time to come. But in view of the irritation that has been expressed in the Eastern Crown Colonies on this subject, and which has led to the resignation of the unofficial Justices of the Peace and most of the unofficial members of Council at Singapore, it is probable that the home Government may be induced to place the whole question on some rational basis and treat all the Crown Colonies alike, instead of taking all that can be obtained from those whose constitution allows of pressure being easily applied and exempting others whose constitution renders the process more difficult. In the elaboration of any new scheme for the levy of military contributions on a common basis, therefore, it is important that the fact that there is in this colony no separation of municipal from general revenue should not be lost sight of. If the levy is to be made in the form of a percentage on revenue a rebate ought to be allowed in the case of Hongkong in respect of so much of the revenue as may be required for expenditure on purely municipal purposes; otherwise this colony would be placed in a much more unfavourable position than other colonies where the municipal revenue is collected separately from the general revenue.

TRANSIT DUES IN TONKIN.

More than a year ago M. DE LANESSAN urged on the Minister for the Colonies a project for the abolition of the transit dues levied on goods passing through Tonkin to and from China. This question is discussed in a recent issue of the *Independence Tonkinoise*, which warmly favours the proposed remission. When the French tariff was extended to the possessions in Indo-China the necessity of treating on a more liberal basis goods simply passing through the country was recognised, with a view to encouraging trade by the Tonkin route. Absolute freedom of transit should have been granted, but instead of this a reduction of the tax to one-fifth of the amount leviable on goods entering Tonkin for internal consumption was decided upon. The total abolition of the dues is now proposed. In the early years of the occupation the amount of the trade by the Red River was insignificant, owing to the state of insecurity then prevailing, but of late years the volume of business has largely increased and the transit dues levied have become an appreciable item in the colony's receipts. Opinions as to the advisability of their remission vary. Our Hanoi contemporary quotes from an anony-

mous note contributed to the Société de Géographie Commerciale, and discussed at a meeting of the Society in February last, the writer of which says that the dues do not exercise the depressing effect on the transit trade that has been attributed to them, and that not only would their abolition not secure the end in view, but would entail an unnecessary sacrifice of revenue; that the best argument advanced in support of the proposal is that if there were no dues goods would then be free from examination by the Customs; that it would then be possible to pack the goods at the place of origin in packages suitable for carriage by mules between Manghao and Mengtzu, and no further trouble would have to be taken with them in Tonkin, which, the writer says, would be a great advantage to trade; but he argues that to secure this advantage it is not necessary to abolish the transit dues, as an arrangement could be made with the Chinese Customs to collect those dues at the same time as the import duty, with the assistance of French officials, and refund them to the Tonkin Government. Our Hanoi contemporary italicises the reference to the Chinese Customs, which it naturally says cannot be taken seriously, but it is of opinion that the arguments advanced will strengthen the Paris authorities in their opposition to the surrender of dues which have an appearance of protecting French goods. The *Independance* goes on to argue that the dues are of no material advantage from that point of view. The full duty levied on foreign goods intended for consumption in Tonkin itself is barely sufficient to enable French goods to compete with them, and in certain lines, notably cotton yarn, competition is absolutely impossible. Now cotton yarn is one of the principal articles of the Yunnan trade, and the full protection duty being insufficient to permit of the competition of French goods, how can it be supposed that when it is reduced 80 per cent., as in the case of the transit trade, it will encourage the importation of French goods? Experience has shown that not a kilogramme of French cotton yarn, or even of cotton cloth, goes by the Haiphong-Laokai route. On the other hand it is incontestable that the abolition of the dues would largely encourage the development of trade, for the objection to the dues is not so much their amount as the inconvenience which their collection entails, since the tariff rules are so complicated that all packages have to be opened for Customs examination, and the unpacking and repacking cause grave delay. Our contemporary believes that M. DE LANESSAN recently again urged the adoption of the proposal he submitted a year ago, and it expresses the hope that the measure will be accepted. In this hope we cordially unite, for the remission of the dues and freedom from the trouble their collection entails would be to the benefit of Hongkong, the transit trade by the Red River route having its headquarters in this colony.

LANDLORDS AND THE NEW SANITARY REQUIREMENTS.

At the meetings of the Land Investment Company and West Point Building Company rather diverse opinions were expressed on the requirements of recent legislation as to placing houses in a sanitary condition. The Hon. J. J. KESWICK said:—"Let us hope that the long deferred 'sanitary measures at last being adopted' may be effectual in preventing any recurrence of the pestilence." This may be taken as an expression of approval of the sanitary measures referred to. Mr. DOUGLAS JONES, on the other hand, said:—"I cannot help thinking that the exactions 'on property which are likely to be enforced

"shortly must seriously affect people interested in all sorts of house property and land in the colony, and also it must have a tendency, I think, to drive capital out of the colony. I further would challenge any of those anonymous scribblers in the daily papers to produce five men in the colony who have become rich on investments in property since 1888, or in fact who secure a fair and ordinary interest on their money." And at the second meeting the same speaker, waxing warmer, referred to the "exactions" as to the provision of impermeable floors as "nonsensical" and "ridiculous," and said he was afraid those who initiated the exactions did not go into the matter as thoroughly and calmly as business men and sensible men might have done. Now, the interests of property are fairly well represented on the Legislative Council by the Hon. C. P. CHATER, Hon. J. J. KESWICK, Hon. HO KAI, Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, and Hon. A. MCCONACHIE, and these gentlemen, though they objected to some of the provisions of the *Insanitary Dwellings Ordinance*, did not object to the provisions as to impermeable floors. Are we to understand that in Mr. DOUGLAS JONES's opinion the gentlemen named are not business men and sensible men? If they are not responsible for the initiation of the requirement in question they assisted in giving it legislative sanction, which is more to the point. Mr. DOUGLAS JONES has the reputation of being a man of considerable business ability and common sense, and how, as a mere matter of business, he can object to a requirement so obviously necessary for the health, and therefore for the prosperity, of the colony it is difficult to understand. There is no question of philanthropy in the case. Should the plague return the trade of the colony would be seriously damaged and the value of property greatly depreciated, so that as a common sense business precaution, and in the interests of landlords as well as of all other classes in the colony, it is imperative that every reasonable measure should be taken to prevent the disease again getting a footing in the colony. And surely no one will say that the provision of impermeable floors is an unreasonable measure. As to Mr. DOUGLAS JONES's challenge to the anonymous scribblers in the daily papers to produce five men in the colony who have become rich on investments in property since 1888, or, in fact, who secure a fair and ordinary interest on their money, the aforesaid scribblers probably are not sufficiently acquainted with the financial affairs of property owners to name five or any other number of men who get any particular rate of interest that they may consider fair and ordinary, but the Land Investment Company has paid a steady eight per cent. dividend, and at the meeting on Tuesday the Chairman was able to refer to the "steady improvement in the finances of the Company," from which it would seem that dealings in property cannot be so very unfavourable. Moreover, the current rate of interest on loans on mortgage is from seven to eight per cent., and if property owners find it pays them to borrow at these rates they cannot be faring so badly. But even admitting, for the sake of argument, that investments made in property since 1888 do not yield a fair and ordinary interest, we fail to see that that has any bearing on the question. If men have been indiscreet enough to buy property at "boom" prices, on the basis say of \$5 per square foot when it is only worth \$3, we may sympathise with them in their misfortune, but they cannot be held absolved by their indiscretion from the obligation resting on every house-owner to maintain his property in such a sanitary condition that it may be occupied without danger to the health of the tenants or the public at large.

THE WAR.

THE JAPANESE THIRD ARMY.

SHANGHAI, 22nd January.

A special telegram to the *N. C. Daily News*, dated Chefoo, 20th January, reads as follows:—"Three Japanese men-of-war bombarded Têngchowfu on Friday, the 18th, and troops assaulted the forts on Saturday, the 19th. To-day (Sunday) 25,000 troops landed in Yungching Bay, and fifty transports were seen off the coast. The earthworks were silenced by three Japanese men-of-war."

In reference to the above the *N. C. Daily News* writes:—

Our special telegram from Chefoo shows that the Japanese with their Third Army are making a very determined attack on the Shantung coast, and having secured Têngchowfu—popularly known as Tungechowfu—on the north-west; they have now effected a landing in force, a few miles below the North-east Promontory, in Yungching Bay. Although this bay is somewhat exposed, it yet affords an excellent landing place for an invading army. Owing to its exposure the bay has never been considered of much importance by the Chinese, and the approaches to it are only defended by some unimportant earthworks armed with antiquated guns, which were considered good enough to defend the fishing villages dotted about the bay from piratical attacks. Yungching Bay is about thirty miles in a direct line from Weihaiwei; and when the latter place was discovered to be unsuitable as a harbour of shelter for the fleet, at the time when Li Hung-chang was on his tour of inspection in 1890, he, assisted by his colleague Chang Yao, the Governor of Shantung, fixed upon Kiaochow, lying nearly midway between Weihaiwei and Yungching Bay, as a more suitable spot to fortify and form into an adjunct for Port Arthur, as the landlocked bay of Kiaochow and its splendid harbour, capable of accommodating upwards of fifty ironclads, afforded natural advantages of which Weihaiwei was deficient. Indeed, in many respects the formation of Kiaochow Bay resembles Port Arthur. Plans for the defence of the place were therefore prepared by Major von Hanneken, and Brigadier-General Chang of Têngchow, at present in Manchuria, was entrusted to carry out the fortifications. Five forts have already been completed, three of which are well armed with modern artillery, but these forts are built with the view of repelling an attack from the sea, and there are no landward defences of any kind. The Japanese will probably take Kiaochow from the land side without difficulty, and then at their leisure dispose of Weihaiwei and capture or destroy the Chinese fleet. The possession of Kiaochow will open to the Japanese the trade routes of Shantung, of which no doubt they will take advantage, and when the winter has passed the Third Army will have everything comparatively clear before them for an advance on Peking, simultaneously with the advance of the Second Army from the Newchwang district, while the First Army completes its conquest of Manchuria.

It has been a matter of wonder why the Third Army was kept idle in Hiroshima for so long a time, and we have it on unimpeachable authority that it was kept back because the Japanese government thought the Chinese were really sincere in their desire to sue for peace, which Japan was willing to grant on comparatively favourable terms, but the double dealing policy of the Chinese government is understood. Japan is aware of the hollowness and insincerity of the professions made by the Chinese officials, and declining to be misled by the humbug of their false professions has at length despatched the Third Army on its career of conquest, and will most likely decline to entertain proposals of peace which the alarmed Chinese government will now no doubt hasten to make.

The following further telegrams appear in the *N. C. Daily News*:—

CHEFOO, 22nd January.

It is expected that the Chinese fleet will await the anticipated attack on Weihaiwei by the Japanese. The Japanese are occupying the city of Yungching, and their troops are reported to have occupied the island of Kiming. All is quiet at Chefoo, and men from the American, French, German, and British men-of-war have been landed. The British squadron is expected to arrive shortly.

CHEFOO, 23rd January.
Another force of Japanese have landed at Ninghai, and General Sun has gone thither with 2,000 men to oppose them. Foreign men-of-war are landing forces to protect the settlement of Chefoo.

[Special Telegrams to the *Shanghai Mercury*.]
YOKOHAMA, 24th January.

The Japanese transport *Satsuma Maru* has arrived at Ujina and reports that she left Talianwan with other transports on the afternoon of the 19th instant and arrived in Yungching Bay, near Weihaiwei, on the 20th instant at daybreak. The *Yagayama* and other Japanese men-of-war landed a number of marines, and met with only a feeble resistance from four guns from a fort there. The boats landing the marines replied with their guns. The Chinese were dispersed by the firing from the guns of the Japanese men-of-war. The captured guns were shipped on board the *Yagayama*. The Japanese landing was effected without any loss and they advanced towards Yungching the same night. The first batch of Japanese transports nearly completed the landing of their troops on the afternoon of the 21st instant, when the *Satsuma Maru* left.

The second batch of Japanese transports arrived at Yungching Bay on the morning of the 21st instant, and the landing of the troops from these vessels was nearly completed by the afternoon. The sea was calm and the condition of the weather was very favourable for landing the troops.

N.E. PROMONTORY LIGHTHOUSE TAKEN POSSESSION OF BY THE JAPANESE.

The Japanese on arriving at the Shantung lighthouse took possession of it. They retained the English, German, and Chinese lightkeepers found there, giving them the same pay and instructed them to continue the usual light.

THE ALLEGED ATROCITIES AT PORT ARTHUR.

AN OFFICIAL DENIAL.

[Special Telegram to the *China Gazette*.]
HIROSHIMA, 21st January.

Mr. Creelman's grotesque exaggerations with reference to Port Arthur have, after the most searching official enquiry, been emphatically contradicted. No one was killed after the fight but some disguised Chinese soldiers, who after firing explosive bullets were trying to escape. No civilians were killed. The Chinese murdered and outraged women, and Japanese officers, for not taking proper precautions to prevent these outrages, have been punished.

BATTLE NEAR HAICHENG.

A Yokohama telegram to the *Mercury* repeats a telegram from Haicheng, dated midnight on the 17th inst., which states as follows:—General Katsura reports that the Chinese that were previously reported advancing from Liaoyang and another force of Chinese from the direction of Newchwang numbering altogether about 12,000, with one hundred banners, on the forenoon of the 17th inst. approached within two kilometres of the Japanese lines of defence. The Japanese troops kept well under cover, hoping that the Chinese would approach nearer, but they did not. At two in the afternoon the Japanese opened fire with four battalions of infantry and one battalion of artillery with twelve guns. Firing was actively kept up until three o'clock, when the Japanese made a charge which the Chinese could not withstand, so were thoroughly routed. The right wing of the Japanese army captured five cannon. The whole Chinese force then retreated, most of them fleeing to the northward, and part went in the direction of Newchwang. The Japanese closely pursued the Chinese until sunset, when the former halted. The Japanese casualties are forty-one killed. At the time the telegram left the Japanese were examining the Chinese loss, which will be sent later on.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 24th January.

British, American, German, and French marines have been landed at Chefoo.

LONDON, 25th January.

Foreigners are leaving Weihaiwei. More Japanese troops have landed at Ninghai to assist in the investment of Weihaiwei.

LONDON, 26th January.

The *Times* correspondent at Shanghai wires that Weihaiwei is now completely invested,

and that the Chinese declare the garrison is able to withstand a prolonged attack.

LONDON, 29th January.

The Japanese fleet bombarded Tang Chow on the 18th and 19th instant and afterwards proceeded to Yung Chêng.

ST. GEORGE'S BALL.

St. George's Ball was held at the City Hall on Wednesday, 23rd inst., and was one of the most brilliant, enjoyable, and in every respect successful functions that has ever been held in the colony. It is only at long intervals that the English community are roused to emulate the hospitality extended by the St. Andrew's Society but when they do take the matter in hand they do it well. Never have the ball-rooms looked prettier than on Wednesday and never have the arrangements for the comfort and enjoyment of the guests been more complete.

An innovation was made with regard to the supper which will probably now become an established custom at balls in the colony, as its advantages over the old arrangement were very evident. Instead of having an appointed time for supper and a general procession, with all the attendant crush and discomfort and the difficulty of securing attendance when seats were at last obtained, the supper room was opened at half-past eleven and remained open until half-past one, with the result that everyone was able to get supper in comfort and with good attendance, and that the overcrowding in the ball-rooms was considerably relieved during those two hours. The only drawback was that the arrangement being new in Hongkong the dancers in many cases had not left any special blank in their programmes and some little disarrangement of their engagements was the result.

Although there was no supper procession a special table was of course reserved for the principal personages representative of the different sections of the community. His Honour the Acting Chief Justice took in Mrs. Barker, H.E. Major-General Digby Barker Mrs. Ackroyd, Commodore Boyes Mrs. Keswick, and the Hon. J. J. Keswick Mrs. T. Jackson; the Acting Chief Justice being the Chairman of the Committee and the senior member of the Civil Service present. Major-General Barker representing the Military, Commodore Boyes the Navy, the Hon. J. J. Keswick the St. Andrew's Society, and Mrs. T. Jackson (for her husband) the Irish community.

The decorations were a dream of beauty. The entrance hall was hung with Japanese lanterns and the pillars festooned with evergreens. The balustrading was draped with red cloth with lines of foliage and at intervals clusters of chrysanthemums; the general effect being light and graceful. On the first landing foliage plants were massed against the wall and peeping between them were brass portraits; in the centre was a shield bearing St. George's cross, above which was the Royal Coat of Arms, the whole being surmounted by a large tracing of St. George and the Dragon. On the side walls were stars of bayonets with coloured electric lights in the centres. In St. George's Hall the electric light had been substituted for gas, a change which contributed largely to the pleasing appearance of novelty and brightness which characterised the treatment of this handsome room. There was a large electroliner in the centre, from which festoons of blue and white ribbon were carried to the walls in Maypole style, and a row of closely placed small lights running round the room just under the cornice had a very pretty effect. At the head of the room were the royal standard and royal coat of arms and above each doorway was a banner bearing one of the quarterings of the standard, and beneath, from each lintel, hung a basket of plants or cut flowers. At the bottom of the room was a trophy of flags. In St. Andrew's Hall gas has not yet been replaced by the electric light and the hall was treated in the usual manner with flags draped over the doorways and windows, no special feature of novelty having been introduced. The drawing room was lighted by electricity and was made to look very handsome and comfortable. The verandahs were as usual closed in and along the south verandah a row of little boxes had been erected just large enough to accommodate a single couple and closely screened off by curtains of flags which admitted nothing more than a glimpse of the occupants' feet from the

promenade. These little nooks were evidently much appreciated and were fully occupied between each dance, but, if a word of criticism may be allowed, the close seclusion was just a trifle too suggestive of Cremorne to be altogether in keeping with the character of the entertainment.

The music for the dancing was supplied by the Band of the Rifle Brigade. The following was the programme:—

Walse	Go Bang.
Lancers	Cinderella.
Walse	Santiago.
Polka	Pick-a-Back.
Walse	Visions D'Amour.
Lancers	Round the Town.
Walse	Donan Wellen.
Barn Dance	Happy Darkies.
Walse	Belle Amie.
Polka	May I?
Walse	Louisiana.
Lancers	Utopia.
Barn Dance	Darkies' Dream.
Walse	Lullaby.
Sir Roger de Coverley	Original.
Walse	River of Years.
Polka	Con Amore.
Walse and	El Dorado.
Galop	John Peel.

EXTRAS.

Walse	Suspinnul.
Walse	Avant le Bal.
Walse	Cupid.

Supper was as usual saved in the theatre, and a very excellent supper it was, both as regards the viands and the wines. The following was the menu:—

HORS D'ŒUVRE.

Lobster Mayonnaise.	Chicken Mayonnaise.
Ham Sandwiches.	Beef Sandwiches.
Caviare Sandwiches.	Sardine Sandwiches.
Browns.	
Boned Capon with Truffles.	
Paté de Foie Gras in Jelly.	

JOINTS.

Baron of Beef.	Roast Saddle of Mutton.
Roast Turkey and Ham.	
Boiled St. Andrew's Corned Beef.	

GAME.

Game Pies.	Boar's Heads
Roast Wild Ducks.	Roast Pheasants.
Tomatoes.	Celery.
Lettuce.	Watercress.

PASTRY.

Blancmange.	Almond Macaroons.
Mince Pies.	Chocolate Sponge Cakes.
Finger Cakes.	

DESSERT.

Vanilla Ice Cream.	Assorted Jellies.
Maraschino Jelly.	Strawberry Ice Cream.

BEVERAGES.

Cheese.	Tea.	Coffee.	Cocoa.
Bon-Bons.			
Beef Tea.			

The stage of the theatre was occupied by the Band of the Hongkong Regiment, looking very picturesque in their bright uniforms, and they played the following programme, their renderings being frequently applauded:—Roast Beef of Old England, Beauty's Daughters, Selection "The Gondoliers," Barrack-room Ballads, Sweet Briar, Pro Patria, Reminiscences of England.

The following, with the Sub-Committees below, constituted the General Committee:—Mr. Justice Ackroyd (Chairman), Mr. E. F. Alford, Dr. P. B. C. Ayres, C.M.G., Commodore Boyes, R.N., Mr. S. G. Bird, Mr. J. H. Cox, Mr. W. Danby, Mr. V. H. Deacon, Major Faithfull, H.K.R., Hon. W. Meigh Goodman, Mr. H. J. Holmes, Mr. A. Hancock, Mr. C. J. Holliday, Mr. A. B. Johnson, Mr. A. J. Leach, Mr. R. K. Leigh, Major Lindley, R.E., Mr. W. Powell, Mr. G. Sharp.

DECORATION COMMITTEE:—Messrs. J. Barton, H. W. Bird, G. A. Caldwell, Captain Combe, O.S.D., C. Ford, C. Palmer, R. M. Ramsey, W. H. Wickham.

WINE AND SUPPER COMMITTEE:—Messrs. H. E. Hobson, B. Layton, J. H. Lewis, H. C. Nicolle, J. Y. V. Vernon, A. G. Wise.

INVITATION COMMITTEE:—Messrs. R. Cooke, R. M. Gray, Capt. Hastings, J. D. Humphreys, Douglas Jones, H. E. Wodehouse, T. Sercombe Smith (Honorary Secretary).

DANCE COMMITTEE:—Messrs. E. C. Berger, S. Hancock, Herbert Smith, A. G. Stokes, H. E. Wodehouse.

CLOAK ROOM:—Mr. H. C. Nicolle.

CARD ROOM:—Mr. T. S. Smith.

HON. TREASURER:—Mr. A. A. Raper.

HON. SECRETARY:—Mr. E. W. Mitchell.

For the efficient manner in which all the arrangements were carried out the subscribers are very much indebted to the above named gentlemen and especially to His Honour Mr. E. J. Ackroyd, who took the initiative in organising the ball, and to Mr. E. W. Mitchell, on whom, as Secretary, a large share of the work fell.

"RAGGED ROBBIN."**CHILDREN'S DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.**

A most delightful entertainment was given by the children whose names appear in the programme below on Monday afternoon at five o'clock in the ball-room of Government House. It was the performance of "Ragged Robbin," given for the benefit of the children's charities. The story, which was taken from a fascinating fairy tale, was well arranged for the little people and had many pleasing little touches of humour and pathos. It was of a Prince who was afraid to choose a bride from the courtly ladies around him, as he thought they had been spoiled by the influences of wealth and court life. A dainty fairy suggested his going out and living a rough life in the world and choosing some worthy little elf who would love him for himself and not for his wealth and rank, which he did, and chose the dainty little Lily of the Valley, thereby showing most commendable taste although there were so many attractive ones around that, without the help of the good fairy, undoubtedly he must have gone astray. The costumes of the little ones were very pretty and appropriate and they looked such a charming lot of flowers that one was sorry the Prince could not carry off the whole bunch. Little Margie Keswick, as the Fairy Fernleaf, was a dream of beauty and she acted her role with ease and grace and perfect composure; but all the parts were very well taken and the performance was far beyond what we look for from such small people. It is a great pity more could not see this drama, and if possible it ought to be given again. It is hard to imagine a more pleasing picture than the children made in every scene. The room was crowded and His Excellency the Governor graced the occasion with his presence. The affair passed off without a hitch and the gathering dispersed, all voting the representation a decided success in every particular. The promoters of the undertaking deserve the greatest praise for the excellent manner in which everything was thought out and carried through. The following was the programme:—

Hyacinth... King of the Flowers, afterwards disguised as Ragged Robbin... Mac Knott.
 Dame Fungus... Marjory Boyes.
 Lily of the Valley } her maids... Evelyn Layton.
 Daffadowndilly }... Jean Keswick.
 Fairy Fernleaf... Margie Keswick.
 Wild Rose... Dora Dodwell.
 Forget-me-not } Wild flower... Phyllis Dodwell.
 Pansy } Maidens... Minnie Hastings.
 Poppy... Lorna Douglas Jones.
 Courtiers—Harry Keswick, Terence Brennan, Theo Vernon, Bernard Ewens, John Alford, Evelyn David, Gordon Dodwell.

Scene I.—Hyacinth's Bower in Flower-garden Land.
 Scene II.—Kitchen of Dame Fungus' Cottage, the Wild-flower Village. Scene III.—Outside Dame Fungus' Cottage. Scene IV.—King Hyacinth's Bower.

SUPREME COURT.

22nd January.

IN CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. A. G. WIE,
ACTING PRISONS JUDGE.

AN ALIBI.

Rambaz, a private of the Hongkong Regiment, was charged with stealing a watch, chain, pawn-ticket, purse, and \$35 in money from the person of J. F. Abraham. The Attorney-General (Hon. W. M. Goodman), instructed by the Crown Solicitor (Mr. A. B. Johnson), prosecuted.

The following jurors were drawn—Messrs. J. W. Osborne, W. S. Harrison, M. I. Michael, J. M. G. Pereira, J. M. D. Carvalho, M. F. Ellsberg, F. A. C. Hahn.

The case for the prosecution was that the complainant, while walking to Hunghom from Kowloon City, where he had been gambling, was attacked by a party of Indians, of whom defendant, who had previously been in his company, was one, and robbed.

For the defence three members of the Hongkong Regiment were called, who testified that defendant was at the parade that day and cleaned his rifle afterwards, ate his dinner, and dressed in white and went out for a walk at an hour that would have made it impossible for him

to have been walking with complainant, as had been alleged.

The jury returned a unanimous verdict of not guilty.

29th January.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. E. J. ACKROYD,
ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE.

DARMANADEN PROUCHANDY v. CHEE WO
AND CO. AND OTHERS.

Mr. A. J. Leach, Q.C., with Mr. E. H. Sharp, instructed by Mr. J. Hastings (of Mr. V. H. Deacon's office), appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., instructed by Mr. E. B. L. Bowley (of Mr. H. L. Dennys's office) appeared for the defendants. It will be remembered this was an action brought on the 26th December, 1894, by Mr. Prouchandy against several Chinese shipbuilders of this colony for the failure to provide certain small steam launches and a larger river steambot at the time stipulated in the contract, and also for failure to make the boats according to specifications. The trial of the case has been delayed by the absence of necessary witnesses. The day was taken up with examining witnesses for the defence, who claimed that the work had been done as agreed upon, with the necessary modifications permitted by the contract, and the delay had been caused by the utter inability to secure men at any price during the period of the plague, and that delays caused by such unforeseen and un-avoidable contingencies were provided for in the contract. The case stands adjourned until to-day.

TAIPINGSHAN ARBITRATION BOARD.

The sessions of the Taping-shan Arbitration Board are now held in the Chambers of the Chairman, His Honour Mr. E. J. Ackroyd, Acting Chief Justice, which are less cold and draughtily than the large court rooms. They are also more convenient for the passing around of plans and documents and are quieter and better lighted. On Thursday there were present the Acting Chief Justice, Mr. E. F. Alford, and Mr. W. Danby, making the full Board, with Mr. A. Seth as Secretary. Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, in the absence of the Attorney-General, represented the Government, assisted by the Hon. F. A. Cooper, Director of Public Works, and Mr. V. H. Deacon appeared for the claimants in claim No. 27, that of the Man On Insurance Co., Limited, for \$90,000.25. Mr. H. L. Dennys appeared for a second mortgagee. Before taking up this case His Lordship remarked that he was sorry they were not able to make faster headway with the cases and he thought more of them should be sent in. The various counsel thought the progress made was all that could be expected. His Lordship said, however, that there were still over forty cases unsubmitted and he thought there was no excuse for such a large number to be out. He knew solicitors who had everything ready, even to the completion of all their notes, and who delayed under the excuse of just finishing up the applications. Some of the solicitors, he said, wished to submit them in a block, when it would be better for the Board if they could be brought in as fast as each case was ready.

The present list of the sittings of the Board is now nearing the end and a new list will be shortly forthcoming. The present list, as will be seen, has only one more case of large value. The remaining claims on the present list in which awards have not yet been made are:—M. A. Baptista and others, claim 36 for \$10,500; Chan King-ting, claim 37 for \$5,000; Chang King, claim 40 for \$12,000; the Man On Insurance Co., Limited, claim 37 for \$90,000.25; the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co., Limited, claim 23 for \$22,800.

The following further awards have been made:—

Claim No. 35, Lo Kam Chune, Inland Lot 244 E: amount claimed, \$3,500, the Government offered \$1,900; the Board awarded \$1,900.

Mr. Ho Wyson appeared on behalf of the claimant.

No costs were allowed.

Claim No. 39, Chung Tsau, Inland Lot 245 G: amount claimed, \$3,400; the Government offered \$2,700; the Board awarded \$2,800.

Mr. C. D. Wilkinson appeared on behalf of the claimant.

No costs were allowed.

Claim No. 41, Chung Tuk-hok, Inland Lots 1,34 and 280, section B: amount claimed \$5,000; the Government offered \$3,800, and the case was settled out of Court for \$4,100.

Mr. C. D. Wilkinson represented the claimant.

LAUNCH OF A GUNBOAT AT KOWLOON DOCKS.

There was launched at Kowloon Docks on Thursday afternoon a composite gunboat built to the order of the Spanish Government for special duty in the Philippines. The vessel has been built under survey of a Commission consisting of Messrs. Francisco Vasquez, Francisco Romero, and Felipe Brinas.

The following are the principal dimensions and particulars:—Length over all, 145 ft. 3 inches; breadth, 22 ft. 10 inches; depth moulded, 11 ft.; tonnage, builders' measurements, 317 tons. The engines are triple expansion, diameter of cylinders 13, 21, and 35 inches, with a stroke of 24 inches; estimated indicated horse power 500. Steam will be supplied by two single ended circular multitubular boilers, with a working pressure of 170 per square inch.

The armament consists of two 57 millimetre Nordenfeldt guns, one placed at the bow, the other at the stern; also two Hotchkiss 5-barrel guns mounted on sponsons at the sides. Each gun commands a range of 180 deg. The magazines are placed under the lower deck forward and are fitted in the most approved method.

She will be schooner rigged and have large sail area sufficient to give a cruising speed of four to six knots, with a steady breeze. The guaranteed speed on a six hours' steam trial is to be eleven knots and she will carry bunker coal to steam 2,500 knots.

The ceremony of naming the vessel *Quiros* was gracefully performed by Signorita Vasquez, daughter of Captain Vasquez. After the launch the party who had been invited to attend adjourned to the offices, when the usual toasts of success to the vessel, her builders, and the health of the lady who performed the christening were duly honoured.

THE "CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO."

The Pacific Mail steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro* is again in port and on looking at her no one would ever imagine that she had been having any unpleasant experiences along the coast of Japan. So far as her travelling capacities are concerned she certainly has not been obliged to consider them, for she left Nagasaki on Wednesday, the 23rd inst., and arrived here on the forenoon of the 23th at 10.30. After striking she did not need to jettison much of her cargo and only a small portion was transferred to the rescue lighter. What was damaged by water was sold at public auction in Nagasaki. The remaining portion of her freight, which was almost the whole, she brought with her and is now discharging the same in good condition. The rock on which she struck was, it is said, not marked on any chart. She was unable to go into dock at Nagasaki for full repairs, since the Japanese Government wished to keep the dock available for any work that the fleet might need. The *Rio* will go into dock at Kowloon to-morrow and it is expected she will be out and loaded again and on her way back to San Francisco by the 12th prox. The damage to her, as revealed on inspection in Nagasaki, was that seven plates and seven frames on the starboard side forward would require replacing, while in various other parts of the bottom, further aft, about eleven more plates had been slightly dented and damaged and will of necessity have to be changed, which could have been effected in about a week's time in Nagasaki, had she been permitted to dock. As it is, the repairs that were made would hold for a long time and have enabled her to travel to Hongkong at her regular rate of speed and without any discomfort.

The steamer *Tokai Maru*, Captain McIvor, while leaving Yokohama harbour on the 6th inst., went too close to the American ship *Servia*, taking out the jib-boom and forward rigging of the ship.

THE ACCIDENT TO THE N. P. STEAMER "VICTORIA."

Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co. have courteously supplied us with the following particulars of an accident to the N. P. steamer *Victoria*:—The steamer *Victoria*, which left Hongkong on the 23rd instant en route for Tacoma, arrived at Moji on Monday morning, 28th, and whilst mooring was carried by the strong current across the stem of the *Ariake Maru* (at anchor) and received considerable damage to her port quarter just abreast of the saloon. The *Victoria* was cut down to the water's edge, and has a fracture 19 ft. deep and as much as 3 ft. wide in places. Up to the time of wiring no damage had occurred to the cargo, and Captain Panton intended to place a temporary patch over the hole and then proceed on to Kobe, where a thorough examination of the damage could be made and where it is possible that either permanent or temporary repairs can be made. It was expected that the *Victoria* would be able to leave Moji yesterday (Tuesday) morning for Kobe. Until the exact particulars of the damage can be ascertained, it is impossible to say whether the vessel will be able to proceed on to Tacoma with her cargo.

THE EXECUTION OF AU CHUN AND LI PONG.

On Tuesday morning as the daylight was just creeping over the high walls of the court of the gaol, the guards and officials interested in the execution of the death sentence passed upon Au Chun and Li Pong, two of the criminals in the Wing Lok Street robbery and murder case, marched into the yard of the gaol and took the various positions assigned them to await the fuller break of day, the appointed time for the execution of the law. At six a.m. the noise of the crank turning of the hard-labour criminals within the prison was ordered to cease and every foreign sound was hushed, save the few final preparations of those around the gallows, immediately concerned in the hanging of the criminals. Mr. F. H. May, the Captain Superintendent of Police, then stepped out into the court and conferred a minute with Mr. H. B. Lethbridge, the Superintendent of the Gaol, and the order was given to toll the bell and bring out the prisoners. A door was then opened at the bottom of a passage and from within came the crying and wailing sound of two Chinese voices, calling out "Save me, I am innocent," and this was kept up the entire way, while the officers partly supported and partly carried the condemned men until they reached the drop under the gallows. The prisoners did not exactly resist, but seemed terrified and helpless and averse to proceeding. Once on the drop they were strapped around the feet, having already had their arms pinioned; a cap was drawn over the head of each and the noose was placed around their necks, and at 6.25 a.m. the bolt was drawn. Li Pong dropped perpendicularly at full length and apparently died almost instantly. Au Chun, who had collapsed on the drop, went down sideways, and was jerked back by the rope in a kind of a letter S-shape, something like the lash of a whip when snapped. This broke the direct violence of his fall and weakened the full theoretical effect of the six feet eleven inches drop, which the day before had fortunately been increased from six feet four; as results now show it would probably have been better if it had been increased even more. This insufficient drop of Au Chun, who was both younger and more muscular, being only 28, while Li Pong was 31, but less robust than Au Chun, resulted in death not being instantaneous, for on examination twelve minutes after the drop he was found to have a low pulse, and during this interval he was all the time giving more or less evidence of a quivering reflex muscular action, such as might be expected from a man suffering from strangulation. His pulse did not stop beating until sixteen minutes after the drop, when both bodies were finally declared dead, and the court-yard was cleared. There were present at the execution, besides the officials, only the representatives of the press and one of the medical staff of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. There was no clergyman in attendance and no confession was made by either prisoner, but they both continued weeping and asserting their

innocence and calling for aid, even with the cups over their heads.

The inquest was held at 3.50 p.m. in the gaol. Mr. H. B. Wodehouse presiding. The jury was composed of Mr. J. P. Cottam, Mr. J. Patterson, and Mr. A. E. Remedios.

The first witness called was Mr. James Hodge, acting warden, who said that the two deceased were admitted to gaol on the 10th of January. Their names were Au Chun, aged 28, and Li Pong, aged 31. They were condemned to death in the Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court, on the 10th of January (the calendar was put in evidence). He also said they were hanged, in the yard of the gaol, at about 6.30 yesterday morning, until they were dead. His Worship, the jury, and the press then adjourned to view the bodies, after which the warden resumed his testimony and said that the date of the warrant for the execution of the deceased was the 19th January, 1895, and that the bodies were those of the persons sentenced to death by the Supreme Court on that date for the wilful commission of murder.

Dr. L. P. Marques, was then called and said that he was the medical officer of Victoria Gaol and also had charge of the post-mortem examinations; that he was present at the execution of the two deceased; that the drop fell at 6.25 a.m.; that the bodies were taken down an hour later; that both were then dead; that he held a post-mortem examination, assisted also by a medical practitioner of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co.; that the death of Au Chun was caused by strangulation and that Li Pong died from dislocation of the vertebrae resulting in complete separation of the spinal cord; that death in both cases was the result of hanging by the neck; that the execution took place inside of the gaol and that the Captain Superintendent of Police and the Superintendent of the Gaol were present and a number of officials under them; that death in one case, that of Li Pong, was probably instantaneous and in that of the other, Au Chun, it was probably practically so.

The jury found that the deceased had come to their death from hanging by the neck, in pursuance of a sentence of death, passed in accordance with the law and duly carried out upon the two deceased, Au Chun and Li Pong, on the 29th day of January, 1895.

On inquiry it was found that the prisoners had remained more or less indifferent to their fate until last Friday, when they sent in a petition to His Excellency asserting their innocence, saying they were strangers from China and visiting here and had no motive for wishing to commit a crime and asking to be reprieved; but His Excellency, after looking into the matter, declined to interfere. They had since this apparently become more composed and passed a quiet and restful night prior to their execution. The bodies when viewed at the post mortem showed that Li Pong had apparently died a much easier death than Au Chun.

THE HOUSE OF NAZARETH.

To the casual observer, perhaps, Hongkong may seem much like any other place; but to the man who examines with care the many details that combine to form its complex entirety, a very different view will appear. It will be found that Victoria and its surroundings are in many respects unique and offer a field for introspection and study such as few if any other places in the world afford in the same condensed and characteristic form. It is a microcosm in which the investigator daily finds, close at hand, something interesting, even on superficial inspection; and if he brings the magnifying lens and the search-light to his aid, the revelations are frequently wonderful.

In one of these wandering prospecting tours chance led our steps near Richmond Terrace.

The day was glorious, the view extremely beautiful. Pausing for a moment on a stone seat we revelled for a brief space in the matchless panorama about us. While thus musing a soft silver-tongued bell sounded faintly near us and directed our attention more closely to the buildings behind. Clambering up and passing along the wide terrace, with its extensive and glorious outlook, there was revealed through one of the windows a type-setting room with men busily at work. We suddenly realised that this must be that interesting "House of Nazareth," of which we had often heard, but had never seen, although time and again we

had planned to avail of the kind invitation of the good fathers to visit it. For years the zeal and successful labours of those missionaries had been known to us and now and again, when some tastefully published work, in some almost unknown tongue, has fallen into our hands, we have been surprised to see the imprint of Hongkong and of this Mission upon the title page. Not infrequently our further surprise and admiration would be awakened by detecting in these prints new typographic impressions, unknown before is press-work, and how these could have been so well produced in such remote and poorly equipped countries, was an ever increasing mystery. It was, then, with uncommon interest, appreciation, and curiosity that we knocked at those friendly doors. Our welcome was genuine and our invitation cordial to inspect the work and methods of this unique institution. Within the place is as busy as a beehive and moves as quietly and systematically to equally attractive and useful results, gathering the best thoughts of time, and judiciously distributing them through the wide field of mission work.

This is the central editing and publishing house for all the numerous Far Eastern branches of "The Society of Foreign Missions, of Paris" (founded in 1661) and especially for branches that have no adequate printing facilities of their own. This large system of mission workers is also part of the work aided by "The Association for the Propagation of the Faith, of Paris."

The primary object of The House of Nazareth in Hongkong was to found a "Retreat" or "Home of Rest" for the Fathers of the Missions, who are scattered through China, Cochin China, Siam, Burmah, Japan, and other places in the Far East. When ill, or over-taxed, or desirous of preparing some literary or religious work and needful of seclusion, rest, and healthful surroundings, since in taking their vows they have pledged themselves never to return to their native homes, they come to "The House of Nazareth," there to abide, without charge or duties as long as they may wish. This Mission, which is under the care of five scholarly Fathers of ability and experience, has now been in existence over sixty years and in that time has quietly and almost unconsciously accomplished a great work. During the latter years, through the generosity of one of their number, the institution has been able to extend the field of its usefulness by the addition of its large printing department, in the management of which one of the Fathers has developed rare ability and has made some improvements and discoveries which, in the most efficient manner, secure admirable results. Here, hidden away on this steep hillside, closeted in his little laboratory, he has through these years patiently and scientifically evolved his method of making type-forms and matrices and moulds and type, without the slow and costly intervention of steel dies, expensive machinery, and multiple operations, and the result is perhaps without its equal anywhere for simplicity, efficiency, and economy. By its means, in a modestly equipped and rather restricted series of small rooms, and with the help of but a few Chinamen whom he has had to train, he has manufactured over 30,000 matrices during the last six years, since the final perfection of his process. The first 18,000 were made in small pieces of copper and were then embedded in zinc butts or bodies. Later he devised a simpler way of making them entirely of one piece of copper and the other 12,000 were so constructed. The copper used by his process being chemically pure is harder, tougher, and in every way superior to that generally supplied by the trade, which latter varies in density, purity, and tensile strength. This clever investigator also simplified and perfected a galvanic process of making and finishing the matrix so that the type that comes from it has a face as smooth and even and sharp as if it had been struck from a fine steel die. This process is the Father's own invention and is the secret of the Mission, as well as are his other working devices that he has studied out with so much skill in the development of his system. The completed type is certainly all that could be desired, having sharpness, smooth finish, and durability. He uses the best of type-metal and the most efficient machinery. His experience with his matrices is that they work to perfection and seem to be as good after years' use as when first made. For several years he has been able to

and no improvements to make in them. The Chinese matrices of his making now number 6660, and will be shortly increased to 10,000, for use in the new Chinese Dictionary, now in the press. In time they will add other Chinese characters up to 30,000 and what others they may need from the remaining 50,000 Chinese characters they will make as occasion requires; but they never expect to make and keep on hand the full 80,000 Chinese characters, since many are seldom if ever used. The usual fonts sent to missions contain about 1,000 different type-forms, and of each of these about four are included in a case, except of about two hundred type most frequently in use, of which a double quantity is sent. Of Chinese type the Father said the institution had manufactured and sent away millions to the various missions. He uses two classes of casting machines: one worked with a pedal "feed and cut off," for Chinese characters; and one with a fly wheel and crank, a very pretty machine, for all the regular shapes of European and related types. The small machine makes on an average about ten type a minute, the other forty, but the capacity of both can be doubled if necessary. These Mission Fathers have made the designs of all their moulds, have made all their type, except a few sample cases bought originally as models, and have edited, printed, and bound countless books in many of the tongues of the Far East, notably, the Chinese, Korean, Tibetan, Annamite, Cambodian, Malay, Balare, and many other dialects usually printed in the Romanic forms of type. They are now engaged on the publication of a Tibetan dictionary and the press work of the first pages is a beautiful specimen of printing. They have a model press room and outfit, with everything kept in the best of condition, as their work so clearly indicates. Throughout all the departments of this cloistered compound reign the most perfect neatness and system, further evidences of an able executive. They are also now experimenting in colotype work and hope soon to produce something superior in that line and thus do away with the necessity of sending to Shanghai, Japan, or Europe for that class of artistic printing. They are also generally developing, among certain of the Chinese engravers, a few who will be capable of executing high class wood engravings for illustrations of a class for which line work is the most desirable. In the meanwhile the learned Father, who has already done so much in the development of this publishing department in all its branches, is continually experimenting and he hopes in a year hence, when they are moved into their new and spacious quarters at Douglas Castle, Pokfulam, to have better facilities for perfecting several other improvements that are now shaping themselves in his thoughts.

HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO.

The ordinary meeting of shareholders in this Company was held on the 22nd inst. at Victoria Buildings. There were present—Hon. J. J. Keswick (Chairman), Hon. C. P. Chater, Messrs. St. C. Michaelsen, N. A. Siebs, D. R. Sassoon, J. S. Moses, and Poon Pong (Directors), A. Shelton Hooper (Secretary), G. Murray Bain, J. Goosmann, J. H. Cox, A. Denison, A. Tillett, F. Henderson, Douglas Jones, J. C. Peters and H. Sutherland.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts for the past year which have now been in your hands for some days will, I hope, have met your expectations and have your approval. The amount advanced on mortgage is \$17,680 less than shown in the statement of the previous year and the interest earned a trifle more. The rents which the property yield show an increase of more than \$5,000 on the last year's, whereas the amount invested in property shows a decrease of \$51,220. Our commission account has more than doubled itself. These three principal sources of income speak for themselves as to the steady improvement in the finances of the Company, but in receiving the accounts I would also remark that the charges account has been slightly increased owing to the stationery account having been entirely included therein, which was not formerly the case, and the Chinese staff having been necessarily increased on account of extra work entailed in our agency business. The amount shown under the

heading of repairs is much larger than formerly, for in addition to the maintenance of all the properties, we have had, I may say, an abnormal call made on us by the October typhoon and by the plague, and I think it right that I should here remind you that by recent legislation in this colony the amount to be expended in the future will have to be greatly increased. With regard to the accounts receivable, as I mentioned last year, this includes all interest accrued as well as that due, which although a *bona fide* asset cannot be collected until its due date, falling a little later than 31st December; the balance of the account is made up principally of rent and interest due on the day these accounts are closed and which is generally paid during the first fortnight of the new year. In comparing our position in 1894 with that of the previous year, you will notice that after deducting the amounts brought forward from the previous account our profits are \$217,082, as against \$202,941, showing an increase which, looking at the disastrous year this colony has gone through, we must characterize as satisfactory. It has been a matter of much satisfaction to your Directors that in the dire visitation of plague which afflicted the city in the summer of 1894 few cases, happily, occurred on the Company's properties. Let us hope that the long deferred sanitary measures at last being adopted may be effectual in preventing any recurrence of the pestilence. As nothing further occurs to me that I can usefully add to these remarks, I shall be very glad to answer questions which the shareholders may wish to address to me before moving the adoption of the report and accounts.

No questions were asked and the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. DOUGLAS JONES—Gentleman, I beg to second the adoption of the report and accounts, in proposing which the Chairman has gone so thoroughly into the affairs of the Company that there is very little for me to comment on. Among the several items which show to advantage, an improvement on last year, that which strikes me as being most satisfactory is the reduction of the amount on mortgage, taking, as I do, a somewhat gloomy view of the prospects of property in this Ordinance-ridden colony. I cannot help thinking that the exactions on property which are likely to be enforced shortly must seriously affect people interested in all sorts of house property and land in the colony, and also it must have a tendency, I think, to drive capital out of the colony. I further would challenge any of those anonymous scribblers in the daily papers to produce five men in the colony who have become rich on investments in property since 1888, or, in fact, who secure a fair and ordinary interest on their money. Looking at the disastrous year of 1894 I think we have every cause to be satisfied with the report laid before us; and I have much pleasure in seconding its adoption.

Carried.

Capt. TILLET moved the re-election of the retiring Directors, Messrs. D. R. Sassoon and Poon Pong.

Mr. F. HENDERSON seconded.

Carried.

Mr. J. C. PETER moved and Mr. J. H. COX seconded that the election of Messrs. St. C. Michaelsen and N. A. Siebs to the directorate be confirmed.

Carried.

Mr. A. DENISON moved and Mr. MANUK seconded the election of Mr. Fullerton Henderson as auditor.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the meeting and I am very much obliged to you for your attendance. It is regrettable that the meeting should have been fixed for mail day, but at the time the date was fixed that circumstance was overlooked. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow on application at the office. Those shareholders outside the colony will have their warrants posted to them where their addresses are known.

Three post-boats carrying letters, packages, and specie, on their way from Shanghai to Hangchow, were attacked in broad daylight, on the 11th inst., by a piratical craft not thirty miles this side of Hangchow. The plunder taken in this instance, the *N. C. Daily News* says, is reported to be considerably over \$4,000 in money, besides valuable packages of silks and satins valued at \$500 more.

WEST POINT BUILDING CO., LIMITED.

The annual meeting of shareholders in this Company was held at Victoria Buildings on the 22nd inst. There were present Hon. J. J. Keswick (Chairman), Hon. C. P. Chater, Messrs. J. S. Moses (Directors), A. Shelton Hooper (Secretary), S. S. Benjamin, J. S. Ezekiel, P. Jordan, C. C. Inchbald, Douglas Jones, H. N. Mody, J. Goosmann, and M. S. S. Sassoon.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, in submitting the report and accounts for the past year, I have much pleasure in being able to say that our hopes of a year ago that we should be in a position to resume our place amongst the dividend paying companies have been realised, and that although the dividend we propose paying is small, yet the fact that we have been able to work off the debit balance of \$1,278.82 and show a credit balance on profit and loss account of \$1,612.07 is very satisfactory. The property is now entirely developed, and we have an estate of 93 Chinese houses situate in a prosperous part of the city, and with a revival of the business of the colony we hope that we shall be able to obtain an improved revenue, thereby enabling us to pay increased dividends.

Mr. DOUGLAS JONES—I would like to ask if some of these what I might term nonsensical exactions to which I referred not long ago in this room, in the shape of the 9-inches concrete or other impervious material which has to be put on Chinese floors and yards—if this ridiculous exaction is carried out, might I ask how far it will affect our property? Have we any estimate of the probable cost? I am afraid those who initiated this exaction did not go into the matter as thoroughly and calmly as business men and sensible men might have done.

The CHAIRMAN—As far as we know, although we have not gone fully into the matter, it will cost about \$40 for each house.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. C. C. INCHBALD seconded.

Mr. GOOSMANN proposed the re-election as Directors of Messrs Keswick and Moses.

Mr. JORDAN seconded.

Carried.

Mr. EZEKIEL proposed and Mr. M. S. SASSOON seconded the election of Mr. F. Henderson as auditor.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the meeting. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow morning.

THE HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the board of directors to the ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders, to be held at the office of the Company, on Monday next at noon:—

The directors beg to submit to the shareholders the report and statement of accounts for the half year ending 31st December last.

After paying running expenses, salaries, premia of insurance, repairs, and all other outgoings, there remains, including \$24,752.19 brought forward from last account, the sum of \$113,751.38 at credit of profit and loss account. From this sum the directors recommend that a dividend for the half year of 8 per cent. on capital, or \$96,000, be paid to shareholders, and that the balance of \$17,751.38 be carried forward to new account.

As compared with the corresponding six months of 1893 the gross earnings of the steamers show a substantial improvement, but the increased price of coal, stores, etc., has caused the net result to be about the same.

During the half year the *Powai* has undergone the annual Government survey and was fitted with steam steering gear ordered from England. The cost and expense of fitting this (\$3,215) is included in the accounts. The *Heungshan* also was docked for painting, cleaning, and incidental repairs.

The depreciation of the Company's share investments is also provided for in the accounts, and these now stand in the books at market value.

The properties mortgaged to the Company have been re-valued by Messrs. Palmer and Turner, and the valuations show them to be good security for the amounts advanced.

The directors deeply regret the death of their late colleague Mr. H. Hoppins. Mr. N. A. Siebs has been nominated to fill the vacancy subject to confirmation at this meeting.

The retiring auditors, Messrs. A. O'D. Gourdin and F. Henderson, offer themselves for re-election.

E. R. BELLIOS, Chairman.

Hongkong, 28th January, 1895.

31st Dec., 1894.	ASSETS.	\$	c.
Value of 4 steamers and 3ths of Fatshan.		900,000.00	
Value of wharves		20,000.00	
Value of cargo-boat and wharf cargo shed		1,300.00	
Value of iron lighter <i>Sun Lee</i>		10,000.00	
Value of coal and stores		4,173.59	
Value of spare gear		2,983.11	
Value of furniture		750.00	
Value of shares in public companies		111,102.22	
Chinese bonds (at par)		1,034.48	
Hongkong Hotel 6 per cent. mortgage debentures		73,500.00	
Loans on mortgage		809,250.00	
Properties foreclosed		68,500.00	
Fixed deposits with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation		50,000.00	
Deposit with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation at call		225,000.00	
Cash with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on current account		4,213.39	
Premium on special torpedo risk policies unexpired		3,409.66	
Interest accrued to date		3,777.04	
Sundry debtors		14,117.54	
		\$2,341,411.03	

31st Dec., 1894.	LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Amount of capital, 80,000 shares of \$20 each, fully paid-up		1,600,000.00	
Amount at credit of depreciation and insurance fund		600,000.00	
Amount at credit of equalization of dividend fund		9,000.00	
Unclaimed dividends		1,446.40	
Sundry creditors		17,213.27	
Amount at credit of profit and loss account		113,751.36	
		\$2,341,411.03	

31st Dec., 1894.	Dr.	\$	c.
To amount paid for repairs:—			
To steamers	\$16,233.51		
To wharves	611.17		
To lighters	19.22		
		16,863.90	
To Company's proportion of loss account <i>Fatshan's</i> collision with junk laden with cotton yarn	805.54		
To directors' and auditors' fees	3,250.00		
To balance to be appropriated, viz.:—			
Dividend at 6 per cent. on \$1,600,000	\$96,000.00		
To be carried to new account	17,751.36		
		113,751.36	
		\$134,670.80	

30th June, 1894.	Cr.	\$	c.
By amount brought forward from last account	247,219		
31st Dec.			
By net earnings of steamers	76,749.03		
By interest on investments	\$10,546.20		
Less written off value of share investments	7,447.62		
		33,098.58	
By transfer fees	71.00		
		\$134,670.80	

31st Dec., 1894.	Dr.	\$	c.
To balance	600,000.00		
		\$600,000.00	

30th June, 1894.	Cr.	\$	c.
By amount at credit	600,000.00		
		\$600,000.00	

31st Dec., 1894.	Dr.	\$	c.
To balance	9,000.00		
		\$9,000.00	

30th June, 1894.	Cr.	\$	c.
By amount at credit	9,000.00		
		\$9,000.00	

The Naval Court of Enquiry held at Shanghai into the loss of the *Taiwo* on the Centaur Crossing rendered its decision on the 24th inst. The Court was composed of Mr. W. Holland, as President; Lieut. Lodder, of H.M.S. *Caroline*, and Captain Hughes, of the steamer *Chungking*, as members, and Mr. Hargreaves, of H.M.S. *Caroline*, as clerk of the Court. The Court found Captain Forrester guilty of grave error of judgment, first, in dispensing with the services of a pilot, secondly, in not making allowance for the strength of the tide, and, thirdly, for not using his anchors when the ship touched the ground. The Court censured him for these errors of judgment, but did not deal with his certificate.

THE KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the sixth report of the Board of Directors to the ordinary meeting of shareholders, to be held at the Company's Offices, Victoria Buildings, at noon, on Monday next:—

GENTLEMEN,—The directors now submit to you a statement of the affairs of the Company and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1894.

The balance of profit and loss account for the year, after writing off all charges and expenses, amounted to \$4,419.21. The directors therefore recommend that a dividend of 70 cents per share be paid, which, after writing off the directors' and auditors' fees, will leave a balance of \$47.21 to be carried forward to the credit of a new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. F. Henderson and F. A. Gomes retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. T. I. Rose and W. H. Gaskell in place of Messrs. Thos. Arnold and R. Lyall, who are temporarily absent, but these latter gentlemen now retire and offer themselves for re-election.

F. HENDERSON,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1895.

31st Dec., 1894.	LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Authorized capital, 6,000 shares of \$50 each			
—\$300,000, of which 5,960 allotted \$30 each paid-up		178,800.00	
Accounts payable		60.60	
Dividends outstanding		463.00	
Balance of profit and loss account		4,419.21	
		\$183,742.81	

31st Dec., 1894.	ASSETS.	\$	c.
Cash		3,210.16	
Cost of property		160,639.10	
76 5/8 per cent. mortgage debentures of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited		19,000.00	
Fire insurance unexpired		22.08	
Accounts receivable		871.47	
		\$183,742.81	

31st Dec., 1894.	Dr.	\$	c.
To charges	276.51		
To Crown rent and rates	1,274.74		
To fire insurance	68.45		
To commission to agents	600.00		
To repairs	834.95		
To balance to be appropriated as follows:—			
Dividend of 70 cents per share	\$4,172.00		
Directors' fees	150.00		
Auditors' fees	50.00		
To be carried to new profit and loss account	47.21		
		4,419.21	
		\$7,471.86	

1st Jan., 1894.	Cr.	\$	c.
By balance brought forward	68.43		
31st Dec.			
By rents	6,301.00		
By interest	1,078.43		
By scrip fees	24.00		
		\$7,471.86	

A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary to the Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Limited.
Agents for the Kowloon Land and Building Co., Limited.

THE NEW BALMORAL GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

Advices dated 28th ult. were received per *Tainan* on Thursday:—

Writing in the middle of the Christmas holidays the manager reports that work was practically suspended except at the battery, where the first crushing of some 80 tons of mixed ore, classified as "low grade," was going on. (This is the crushing the results of which were received by telegram on the 5th instant and published on that date.) The battery of ten head of stamps was working well; also the engines and boiler, all of which have undergone extensive alterations and repairs since the formation of the new Company.

Queen Mine.—The outlook promises extremely well. Tenders for sinking the main shaft, for continuing the winze at the 145 feet level, and for driving along the reef at north end of same level were being asked for, and these works will be in hand immediately after the commencement of the New Year.

Balmoral.—Prospects here are still improv-

ing, and tenders will be invited for working at two new points where gold has been discovered.

Grant's and Eureka.—Work on these two mines being for the moment suspended, there was nothing fresh to report.

BELL'S ASBESTOS EASTERN AGENCY, LIMITED.

The Company which has been formed in London with the above title is now commencing business in Hongkong, and a few particulars with reference to the concern may prove interesting to our readers. Bell's asbestos goods are of course familiar to all users of steam and electricity. For some years after the goods were placed on the market the demand from the Far East steadily increased, but then became comparatively stationary. In view of the large growth of steam shipping and manufacturing industry in this part of the world the directors were at a loss to account for this, and a year ago Mr. F. A. Waylen, who is connected with Bell's Asbestos Co., Limited, came out to investigate. The result was that he found engineers and others, who supposed they were being supplied with the genuine article bearing Bell's name, were receiving instead adulterated goods at cheaper prices. It was then decided to establish an Eastern agency, and the conclusion was arrived at that this could best be carried out by forming a subsidiary Company. Accordingly Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited, has been registered under the English Companies Acts. The capital is £10,000 in ten thousand ordinary shares of £1 each. The whole of the required capital and a great deal more could have been obtained in England, but as the policy of the promoters was to afford the users of the goods in the Far East an opportunity of becoming interested only 3,500 shares were issued on the London market and the remainder will be open for subscription here. Ultimately a local register will probably be established.

A contract has been concluded with the parent Company by which the Agency Company has secured for a term of fourteen years, dating from the 1st January of this year, the good-will of the business in the Far East, and the profits which were being derived from orders placed direct with the parent Company will now be handed over to the Agency Company. Those profits are more than sufficient to cover all the establishment charges of the latter and the extension of the business which is anticipated will therefore represent so much clear profit. The parent Company does not confine itself exclusively to the manufacture of asbestos goods but also manufactures oils, brass work, and general engine room requisites, amongst which the asbestos lubricant has a well established reputation. The Eastern Agency, Limited, has also secured the sole agency of four or five other important manufactures used in connection with engineering.

The directors of Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency are Mr. F. A. Waylen, Mr. W. R. Jenkins, and Mr. A. G. Angier, and Mr. F. C. Bell, the founder of the parent Company, will join the Board at the general meeting. Mr. Waylen, who, as above noted, visited the Far East a year ago, has come out again to set the business in motion, and, after seeing it fairly established, will return to England. There will be a local Advisory Board in Hongkong, and with the growth of the business depôts will be established at Shanghai, Singapore, and Yokohama.

The list of subscriptions for shares will open on the 1st February, and the terms of issue will be announced in due course.

The *Pechili* returned to Shanghai on the 17th inst. from the wreck of the *Taiwo*, bringing the captain, officers, engineers, and crew. Since then the wreck has been surrounded by boats, the occupants of which have swarmed on board and helped themselves to everything they could carry away.

Telegraphic news has been received at Shanghai from Chefoo to the effect that the telegraph station at Chengshan island has been abandoned. This island lies midway between Chefoo and Weihaiwei, connecting both places. Communication by telegraph between Kiaochow and Weihaiwei and thence to Chefoo by land was still interrupted on the 22nd inst.

RAUB

The following is the mining manager's report for five weeks ending 10th January, 1895.—

Raub Hole Section, No. 1 Level Main Engine Shaft.—The only work going on in this level is working two of the small cross leaders which show a little gold and working a bunch of ore over the main drive in the north end. This latter appears to be an offshoot from the main ore shoot. It carries fair gold, but I don't think it is of much extent. In the intermediate level between the No. 1 north and No. 1 south winzes there is still a good extent of payable ore to work, but at present there is too much water coming through the old native workings to allow us to work it. As soon as the weather clears up we shall be able to resume work here in No. 2 level.

No. 2 Level.—In the main drive going south good progress is being made. The lode formation is about 4" wide, but carries no gold. A number of small cross leaders have been cut, some of them carrying good gold. It is my intention to continue this level south until it meets the north drive from the No. 2 south engine shaft.

No. 2 South Engine Shaft.—The main drive at the 120 feet level has been extended 46 feet, making the total length 191 feet, 91 feet north and 100 feet south from the crosscut. The lode in the face of the north level has improved and is now 8" wide in the bottom and 3" in the top of the level. It has the appearance of a new make of stone going down; this we shall be able to prove in our next sink. There has been no stopping done north of the X out, so that there is a large extent of the main ore shoot to stope yet. In the face of the level going south the lode still continues to look well; there is 2 feet of ore carrying good gold. As the main ore shoot goes south it appears to make more extensive and maintains its richness. Along the bottom of this level for 160 feet we have a strong body of ore carrying good gold all the distance and with good gold still showing in the face of the drive. This looks well for our next level. Over the back of this level there are three stopes at work on good payable ore. The lode averages from 1 to 2½ feet thick, and there is now a face 70 feet high of good payable ore opened. As soon as the pump ironwork arrives from Singapore I shall at once commence to sink the shaft another 70 feet.

Bukit Koman.—The principle work carried on in this section has been stoping over the back of the main drive at the No. 1 air shaft. The lode still continues as large as ever, 2 to 20 feet wide, and carries fair gold the whole width. A month's work makes very little impression on a great lode like this. The ground has been giving us some trouble to secure, owing to the water finding its way from the surface through the old native workings. The main drive going south is still in hard blasting ground. The country in the face is very broken, consisting of quartz and diorite, but shows no gold.

Leader Formation in Shaft.—A winze has been sunk from where we opened out up the shaft and connected with drive going south from plat on the east side of the shaft. Gold can be found in the leaders right to the bottom of the winze; in fact, some good specimen stone is occasionally met with, but the formation is very irregular. The ground is very hard blasting ground, which makes it very slow and costly to explore; still the formation appears extensive and may lead to something good. Very little work has been done in the surface workings, owing to the continuous wet weather we are having. This is also causing a lot of extra water in the mines and is giving the present pump all it can do to keep the mine free from water. A large pump capable of raising 30,000 gallons of water per hour has been ordered to replace the one now in the shaft.

Western Lode.—Stoping north and south is being carried on from the No. 1 north winze. The lode varies from 6 inches to 2 feet in thickness and fair gold can be seen in breaking the ore all along the lode, which is now open for a distance of over 200 ft., with over 70 ft. of backs still to stope. As we rise on the lode it will get wider. The continuous wet weather is giving us some trouble when taking out the ground, as owing to its soft nature it causes it to run and becomes heavy on the timber.

Battery.—Owing to the continuous wet weather and the difficulty of carting quartz to the battery, it has only been able to work 33 days

and 8 hours during the past nine weeks. No less than 22 of our working bullocks have died during that time. It is evident that unless some better system of transporting the ore from the different mines to the battery is adopted, it will be impossible to extend our operations or even keep the present mill fully employed. I have taken the necessary steps to have a survey and trace made immediately of a light railway as far as Bukit Koman, so as to save time. On the 7th inst. a general clean up of the battery took place, 1,210 tons (estimated) giving a return of 2,319 oz. amalgam, which yielded 807 oz. 4 dwts. smelted gold, being an average of 13 dwts. 8 grs. per ton. The following are the proportions crushed from the different mines:—Bukit Koman 550 tons. Raub Hole 400 and West Lode 260, total 1,210 tons. Crushing was resumed again on the 9th inst.

General.—During the past five weeks the weather has been wet and stormy, which has played sad havoc amongst the working bullocks, no less than 22 having died during the last two months and the rest of the old ones are little better than walking skeletons and are unfit for work. The result is the mill has only been able to work a little over half time, and it is with the greatest difficulty that the different pumping engines have been kept going, owing to the difficulty of getting firewood in from the jungle to them, as all the jungle roads are almost impassable. Having to use green and wet wood causes about twice as much to be burned as we should if it had a reasonable time to dry. I cannot too strongly urge on the directors the necessity of at once pushing on the construction of a railway, so as to have it completed before the next north-east monsoon sets in, and avoid a repetition of what we are now experiencing.

WM. BIBBY.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

LONG RANGE CUP AND SPOONS.

A strong breeze and a bright sun were not conducive to high scoring on Saturday afternoon, although there was a fair attendance of members. The Cup was won by Capt. Palmer and the Spoons by Messrs. Rosevere, Stewart, and Staveley. The following are the best scores:—

	800 yds.	900 yds.	Hoop	Grand total.
Capt. Palmer, O.S.D.	40	35	8	83
Mr. Rosevere, R.N.	36	29	13	78
Mr. W. Stewart	31	30	12	73
Lt. C. B. Staveley, R.B.	35	26	12	73
Mr. W. M. Deas	21	21	20	65
Sapper Pritchard	23	26	15	64

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. v. NAVY AND ARMY.

Cedant arma togæ.

The above important fixture, played on Friday and Saturday last, was like most of its predecessors decided on the first innings at a point beyond which if the game had been continued an interesting contest would have resulted; for though the Club gained a lead of 100 runs in the first innings, the United Services made such thoroughly good use of their second batting venture as to be 120 runs on with only three wickets down. Had the game been fought out the other side would probably have had to raise 250 runs to ensure victory. Both sides suffered from absenteeism; the Club being the worse affected in this respect. Winning the toss, Sergt. Burton and Garde faced Watson and Firth. The two opening batsmen made a bad start, as the Sergeant was most palpably l. b. w. to Firth and Garde scooped a ball into Inchbald's hands at leg. This made 2 for 6. But the arrival of Campbell and Reade changed the complexion of affairs: the juncture was critical and steady play was the only sound play. This policy both batsmen adopted with great success, taking no liberties till Ellis bowled, when a 7 and 5 to leg rather excited them and led to some sharp running, which resulted in Campbell being run out from a brilliant throw in by a coolie. The partnership had produced 73 runs. Thresher succeeded, but immediately lost the Surgeon-Major, who was held at mid-on off Mast, who had taken up the bowling a short time before. Reade's runs were made in his now well known cautious and effective manner and his innings, save for a few lucky snicks to leg off Firth and an undoubted anxiety not to be hit by

bumpy ones from Watson, was as good as any of the several which have been played by him this season at a pitch. The rest of the innings can be briefly described, and consisted mainly of some clever bowling by Firth and some good length trundling by Mast, the pair proving too much altogether for the remaining batsmen. Thresher and Shelford were both completely beaten by the P. and O. man, whilst Morcom and Elliott put up two simple ones off Mast. Knox, of the Rifles, who has soon picked up the secret of playing forward on Hongkong wickets, was the only one to make a stand and contributed an easily made 19. A pretty left hand catch at point by Mast got rid of Sergt. Turner and a ball or two after Firth bowled the "Pink Un." After 3 wickets for 79, 10 wickets for 109 was disappointing. The Club fielding was good, but all the credit rests with Firth and Mast, especially with Firth, who kept up his end throughout, judiciously varying his pace and pitch.

A quarter of an hour remained for play when the Club went in with Smith and Inchbald. The start was as disastrous as that made by the other side, for Smith inexcusably ran himself out and Inchbald unintentionally entrusted one to the wicket keeper. Time was played out by Lammert and Sheldon, the former having three 4's to his credit at the time of drawing stumps. Upon resuming at 11.15 on Saturday morning Sheldon played the best part of an over in good forward style, but in indulging in a pet stroke got his bat across, etc. etc. This was 3 for 13! Lammert was next joined by Firth and a reassuring stand resulted. The former played far better than usual; his bat was kept straight, his drives were along the ground, and he aided balls outside his off stump. Firth, now in batting as before in bowling, proved the mainstay of his side; he kept a strict watch over every ball, cutting anything that required such treatment, gliding to leg when the chance came, or driving as opportunity offered, with an occasional "dog" stroke put in to show his many sidedness. Elliott succeeded in separating the two, sending back Lammert for 31. To him succeeded Darby, whose stay was short, as he dragged a ball from Lee on to the sticks in attempting to cut. F. Maitland then joined Firth and helped to add over 40 runs before he was run out just at the hour for tiffin after a spell of free batting. At this time Firth was not out 70 and met with a hearty reception. After lunch Ellis partnered Firth and another 40 runs was scored before Firth was out, in exactly the same manner as Darby was, i.e., by making a mis-hit in cutting and drawing the ball on to the wicket. His 83 was a chanceless innings and everyone repined because this staunch cricketer did not get the century. Mast filled the vacant place and played with perfect abandon. He took liberties with the bowling which were refreshingly daring, but which would have been dangerous ordinarily; however, his eye seemed unusually clear and his rapidly hit score of 34 fully justified his tactics. He was finally smartly stumped by the vigilant Garde, having been preceded into retirement by Ellis, who played a careful game and did all he could to help Firth to his 100: an 8 off a long hop was a noticeable feature of his batting. As the Club had to bat one man short, Watson got left, with only three to his credit. There was no fault to find with the fielding, Thresher in the country and Garde with the gloves more than acting up to their reputation. There was a lack of bowling in the United Services' team, which became apparent during the several stands that took place.

With a deficit of 100 runs the Navy and Army batted a second time with great success. Knox was run out at once and Sergt. Burton, after some free hitting, was safely held in the long field by the coolie. Now it was that Campbell and Garde got together with the score at 27, which was carried to 175, or about 150 on, before they were parted. Both men gained entire mastery over the Club bowling, in which eight members of the team shared, the separation being effected by Darby, who bowled the R.N. for a meritorious 75, compiled mainly by leg play and drives. After being joined by Thresher, the H.K.R. bat kept on the even tenor of his way and at the time of drawing stumps had booked a not out 80. Thresher being not out 24, and the total 222 for 3 wickets! But for a very simple catch which Smith surprisingly dropped Campbell's display was stainless and by his two innings he confirms the expectations which his opening match here led knowing ones

to form of him. We congratulate him and Garde most heartily on their very fine performance, which had rekindled interest in a match which, if played out, would probably have led to a finish dearly loved of cricketers.

Through the courtesy of Major Faithfull and the officers the band of the H.K.R. played spiritedly on Saturday afternoon to a large and appreciative audience.

Appended are the score and analysis:—

UNITED SERVICES.

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
Sergt. Burton, R.B., lbw., b Firth	0	c sub., b Firth	17
R. Garde, R.N., c Inchbald, b			
Watson	8	b Darby	74
Lt. Campbell, H.K.R., run out	24	not out	50
Surg.-Major Reade, A.M.S., c sub,			
b Mast	41		
Lt. Thresher, R.B., b Firth	1	not out	24
W. E. Morecom, R.N., c Darby, b			
Mast	1		
Lt. Knox, R.B., not out	19	run out	0
Lt. Shelford, R.N., b Firth	4		
H. N. Elliot, R.N., c sub, b Mast	1		
Sergt. Turner, R.B., c Mast, b			
Firth	0		
Pte. Lee, R.B., b Firth	0		
Extras	7	Extras	15
	109		224

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Overs.	Mds.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wkts.
First Innings.					
Firth	26	12	44	—	5
Watson	12	5	18	—	1
Ellis	5	1	25	—	—
Mast	9	1	15	—	3
Second Innings.					
Watson	14	4	40	—	—
Firth	23	5	70	—	1
Mast	7	2	8	—	—
Lammert	7	—	25	—	—
S. Smith	7	1	26	—	—
Ellis	2	—	13	—	—
F. Maitland	3	—	9	—	—
Darby	5	2	16	—	1

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

C. Inchbald, c Garde, b Lee	0
T. Sercombe Smith, run out	0
R. F. Lammert, b Elliott	31
B. P. Sheldon, b Lee	0
E. Mast, c Garde, b Elliott	34
S. L. Darby, b Lee	6
C. M. Firth, b Lee	63
E. Maitland, run out	22
E. C. Ellis, c and b Elliott	19
J. G. Watson, not out	3
Extras	12
	210

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Overs.	Mds.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wkts.
Elliott	27.2	10	70	—	3
Lee	25	10	54	—	4
Shelford	15	4	48	—	—
Thresher	3	—	7	—	—
Burton	5	1	21	1	—

HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS.

MAXIM GUN CORPS.

On Saturday afternoon seventeen members turned out to compete in the Company's seventh monthly Carbine competition for the Challenge Cup and Handicap Sweepstakes over the 200 and 400 yards distances, on the Police Range, Kowloon, kindly lent for the occasion by the Captain Superintendent of Police, the shooting in which resulted in a first win for the popular Captain of the Corps after a most exciting finish and tie with Gunner Shepherd, who had to give way only on the point of a little inferiority in the value of his score.

The afternoon, which was fine and somewhat windy, was hardly conducive to high scoring, but in spite of drawbacks the shooting showed a marked improvement all round, and the results must have been very gratifying to those who have the best interests of the Corps at heart.

Gunner G. P. Lammert scored a "possible" at 400 yards in magnificent style, but was somewhat unfortunate at the shorter distance, where he could only compile 18. The following were the best scores:—

	200 yards.	400 yards.	Total.
Captain Murray	28	32	60
Gunner Shepherd	30	30	60
Gunner Smyth	29	30	59
Gunner G. P. Lammert	18	35	53
Gunner Firth	29	23	52
Sergeant May	21	27	48
Gunner Millward	25	20	45

On the afternoon of the 23rd inst. fire broke out in the cook-house of Sweetmeat Castle, on Nanking Road, Shanghai. The fire was checked and prevented from spreading to the main building. The property was insured with the Hongkong Fire.

FOOTBALL.

The many engagements consequent on the Chinese New Year will account for the absence of several of the Hongkong Football Club's usual players in the match on Thursday with the Navy. The latter kicked off and within five minutes scored the first point, obtained by the Club sending the ball through its own goal. Shortly afterwards by the same means another was obtained. The Club now commenced to play with good combination and great enthusiasm and several corners had to be conceded to them; at the same time Cameron was successful in preventing several nasty rushes by pertinacious tackling and well-judged kicking. Hughes and Shelford on the other side always made matters warm whenever the ball was passed to them and put in some excellent shots. Just before half-time a goal was nearly obtained by Deacon, who catching the ball on his head from a corner-kick sent it a short distance outside the post. On crossing over the Navy once again pressed and a careful shot by Hughes sent the ball under the net. Both sides now played for all they were worth, Campbell for the Club making some excellent runs and Pratt, together with the backs for the Navy clearing well whenever harassed by his opponents. All efforts, however, were fruitless and the score at closing remained as stated.

The ground was hard and dry and a wind blew slantingly over the field of play, when on Monday afternoon the Hongkong Football Club played a Naval team under Rugby rules. The nucleus of the latter team was composed of players belonging to the Torpedo Depot; the remaining part was made up of naval men attached to other branches of the service. The Club elected to play with the wind, which was an important factor and caused the play throughout the match to be generally in one quarter of the field. Their opponents kicking off soon received the ball back again and a succession of scrimmages took place from the centre of the field to their goal lines. This pressure was after a little while relieved by Grieves, who made a good run from his own twenty-five to that of the Club. Running down the field with a good deal of weigh on him, he successfully rushed by several opponents, but was ultimately grounded by Anton. Shortly afterwards Bowring gave a kick which sent the ball a few yards only up the field; however, in spite of being severely pressed he brushed off all who attempted to tackle him and gave another kick which landed the ball in goal, where he touched down. The kick was taken by Thomson, but the try was not converted. Changing sides the effect of the wind was at once apparent, the ball now being much in the Club's quarters. The naval team was now playing in good order, Brantingham being very useful in passing to Shelford, thus enabling the latter to make several good though short runs. Hughes several times seemed difficult to hold back, but the tackling of the Club was so good that he could not proceed far. Several scrimmages in the latter's twenty-five now took place and from one of these the ball was kicked into in-goal, where it was made dead by the Club. From the kick out the ball was quickly returned and scrimmages with little or no running took place until time was called. The score was unaltered finally, the Club thus winning by a try, or two points, to nil.

Through the vigorous initiative of General Del Kemper, the U.S. Consul at Amoy, a proclamation has been issued by the Taotai of that unsavoury city prohibiting the burial of Chinese on the island of Kulangsu. The latter island, forty years ago, was an almost barren rock inhabited by only a few poor fisherman, but with the advent of Europeans and Americans and their taking up their residence there a large Chinese population has sprung up. Of late years the little island has become a popular burial ground for the Chinese, with the result that it bade fair to become nothing but a cemetery in the course of another decade. This would have been a calamity, but it is now impossible or at all events unlikely, thanks to the energy of General Kemper. It is a cause for wonder that such a step as this has not been taken long ago on the initiative of the guardian of British interests, since his nationals represent the great majority of the foreigners resident in Kulangsu. But—

DEATH OF PRINCE ARISUGAWA OF JAPAN.

The following telegram was received by the Japanese Consul on Thursday night, the 24th inst.:—

"His Imperial Highness General Prince Taruhito of Arisugawa died at 3 p.m. on the 24th inst."

The deceased Prince, who was uncle to His Majesty the Emperor, was the senior of the Imperial Princes and hence the most honoured. The House of Arisugawa also ranks first among the relatives of the Emperor. His Highness had been in the Army for the past thirty years, and at the time of his demise was Chief of the General Staff. He was born on the 23rd March, 1835, and had therefore nearly completed his sixtieth year. His successor, Prince Takehito, is the commander of the flagship *Matsushima*. He served in the British navy as midshipman and lieutenant for some years and there acquired an accurate knowledge of the profession he has embraced, striking proofs of which have been afforded during the present war.

THE REPAIR OF THE "CHENYUEN."

From a private letter from Chefoo we (*Mercury*) glean the following account of the damage done to the *Chenyuen*, and of the means by which her repairs were effected.

THE "CHENYUEN" TOUCHES A ROCK.

The *Tingyuen* and *Chenyuen* were entering Weihaiwei harbour at very low spring tides, the *Tingyuen*, drawing about a foot less than the *Chenyuen*, being in the lead. The *Tingyuen* safely entered the harbour, but the *Chenyuen* following in her wake touched bottom two or three times on what proved, upon subsequent examination, to be an isolated rock situated in the main channel to the port. This, owing to the exceptionally low tide and the swell that prevailed at the time, the *Chenyuen* was just able to bump, and in her passage over it she did bump several times, making one very large opening and severely cracking her bottom in some nine or ten other places. Owing to the fine quality of the iron used in her construction and to the strength of her false bottom, this ship did not fill further than this, and for harbour purposes was still safe. She could not, however, go outside, nor was it safe to fire her large guns, as the strain might prove too great. In this quandary Admiral Ting applied to the Commissioner of Customs at Chefoo, and through him the Inspector General, who ordered the Customs divers, Messrs Paine and Wilson, from Shanghai and on their arrival at Chefoo to Weihaiwei. Upon their arrival their first duty was to ascertain the damage done by visual inspection. The Chinese were aghast upon being informed of the damage, but the divers, nothing daunted, at once gave instructions for such material as was necessary and began the work of repair.

THE METHOD OF REPAIRING.

The effect these repairs, as it was impossible to dock the vessel, it was necessary to put on several patches over those breaches large enough to admit of the introduction of bolts and to wedge those cracks which were too small for this with wooden plugs, and then cover this with cement. In even the smallest work but little assistance could be given from the deck, owing to the large rolling chucks along the side of the ship. A stage was, however, rigged below the ship's bottom and on this the divers did their work, first driving soft wood wedges in all the cracks and then covering with hydraulic cement.

Over the larger holes "patches" made of three and four inch planking, strengthened with iron bands and with a thick padding of cotton, were placed, and by passing bolts through the false bottom these were screwed tightly into place. The largest rent required a patch fourteen feet long by five feet broad to be placed over it. This was made of four inch planking, strengthened by iron bands, three inches by one inch, and with a packing made of canvas hose, eight inches in diameter, packed tight with cotton, nailed around the edge. This patch was made on the ship and then made more buoyant by fastening Foochow poles to the under side. It was then let over the ship's side and the divers with great difficulty managed to place it on the stage. Two inch bolts having been placed in readiness, the divers proceeded to put this in place. This took them three hours of

continuous work to manage sufficiently to be able to leave, and the arduousness of this becomes evident when it is known that the water in which they were working was below freezing point. This patch was finally finished by securing it by six two inch bolts and screwing it up so tight that the cotton packing, originally eight inches thick, was compressed to three inches. This made such a close joint that no water could by any means enter.

The minute details given above of the method used to place the large patch will give an idea of the work done on the *Chingue's* bottom, and that this was well done is proved by the telegraphic report of Admiral McClure to Chefoo that the ship had been outside and tried her heavy guns and that no leakage had occurred.

A LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR SIAM.

A Royal Decree creating a Legislative Assembly or Council has been recently issued by the King of Siam. The business of such Assembly will be the making of new law and ordinances and the discussing and passing of budgets and estimates. It will be on the lines of a British Colonial Legislative Council, and all laws &c., passed by the Assembly must, of course, receive the Royal sanction before promulgation. The Chief Ministers of the Crown will be ex-officio members, while His Majesty will nominate other members, chiefly from among the Privy Counsellors, all of whom will be of or above the rank of Phya. All members of the new Legislative Assembly will rank next to Ministers of the Crown, and will receive salaries while the sittings last. These are some of the chief points in the Decree, which is of such importance that we purpose giving it in full in our next issue. It is understood that the first sitting of the new Legislative Assembly will be held in a fortnight's time.—*Siam Observer*.

THE SITUATION IN PEKING.

Advices from Peking from reliable sources show that the political condition of the capital is deplorable in the extreme, and that the gravity of the situation, instead of stilling the voice of faction and putting a stop to intrigue, has intensified the one and increased the other. The anti-Li party a month or two ago found an energetic leader in Tze Jui, one of the leading spirits in the Hanlin College, and the virtual chief of the Li Pu. This official is said to have got at the Imperial ear by means of the two favourite concubines, said to be his daughters, and it was in consequence of his and their representations that Mr. von Hanneken was called to the capital and entrusted with the reorganisation of China's military forces. The Dowager-Empress has checkmated Tze Jui by getting him nominated Governor of some remote district on the Siberian frontier, and marked her disapproval of his kinswomen's action by degrading them officially in the Imperial Household.

The Li faction under this indefatigable lady is again on the top of the wave, but finds increasing difficulty in holding its own, for though Prince Kung, the actual head of the administration, is on the whole favourable to it, he is not a thoroughgoing partisan and is apt to trim. The ignorance and fatal optimism of the great officials is working steadily against the Li party. The utter collapse of the military force of the Empire against a power so despised as Japan is to them perfectly inexplicable on any other ground except "*Nous sommes trahis*,"—and as Li's enemies persistently repeat this formula and point to him as the betrayer, many far-minded but ignorant high officers are being slowly biased against the anti-Li party. The edicts summoning nearly all his military nominees to Peking for punishment and the gradual supersession of Li himself all point to the steady decline of his power. Rightly or wrongly the Peking authorities deemed that von Hanneken was not a *persona grata* to the great Viceroys, and hence their attempt to make his efforts and plans quite independent of viceregal control and finance. It is shrewdly suspected that some astute but secret supporter of Li suggested Mr. von Hanneken's association with Hu Yü-fen; the latter was made the nominal head of the re-organising

bureau, but was ordered to consult his foreign condjutor in everything. In any case the association of incompatible elements, namely, foreign skill and native prejudice, is working its inevitable result—dead failure. The colleagues differ on many essential points, and as Hu practically holds the purse strings he has an effective veto on everything the foreigner suggests. Mr. von Hanneken has already enlisted the aid of such foreigners as were available, but the fact that the Tientsin petty officials are keenly trying to hunt up the antecedents of these recruits and are reporting their discoveries in Peking clearly shows their hostile attitude to the whole scheme.

Peking official opinion is, on the whole, being foolishly optimistic again. By some curious means the vapourings of the European press which treat of China's boundless resources, etc., are being taken as gospel, and the officials think if they can prolong the war for one year, they will not only roll back the tide of invasion but punish the Japanese in turn. Utterly ignorant of the nature of modern war, they think that science and discipline may be overcome by numbers. They are even asserting in many quarters that the new-fangled foreign arms of precision are the primary cause of the Chinese reverses, and several prominent officials have not hesitated to commend that the repeating rifles should be discarded in favour of the ancient Brown Bess, or gingal, requiring two men and four minutes to fire one round.

The Li party is, of course, not so foolish as this! It at least knows the true courses of Japanese success and Chinese failure, and recognises the absolute futility of carrying on the unequal struggle. But their assertion of these causes and their recommendations of peace are at once quoted against them as proofs of their want of patriotism and their incompetence to conduct affairs.—*N. C. Daily News*.

EARTHQUAKE IN TOKYO AND YOKOHAMA.

The *Japan Mail* of the 19th inst. says:—Tokyo was visited, at a few minutes to 11 p.m. on the 18th inst., by an earthquake of great severity. Records from seismological observatories have not reached us at this moment of writing, but we are disposed to think that the shock was even more severe than that of June last.

The earthquake was attended in Yokohama with fatal results to one man. While a Japanese pawnbroker (58) and his son (32) were escaping from their shop at No. 97, in Honmura Road, they were caught by some falling bricks and tiles. The old man received some severe injuries to his head, from which he succumbed during the night. The son had his left arm broken and is now in hospital. At No. 119 the whole side of a godown gave out, but fortunately without injuring any one. At No. 128 a stone wall collapsed, while at No. 163 the gable end of a large godown fell into the street. The office of M. Eymard, on the same lot, is so badly shaken that the house is almost uninhabitable. No. 146, in China-town, has its brick walls so twisted that it will have to be pulled down. The Chinese Consulate also suffered severely, while a portion of the stone wall of Messrs. Vivanti Bros.' premises collapsed. In Ishikawa, Honmura, and other portions of the native town, more or less damage was sustained, tiles and plaster, etc., being detached, but nothing of a serious character has been reported.

On the Bluff the mischief done was comparatively slight, but the top of a brick chimney at the Italian Consulate fell and the debris was scattered in the road. One of the walls at the General Hospital at No. 82 was cracked.

In the Native Town the damage was much smaller. An old dwelling house at Otamachi was destroyed, and some damage was caused in an earthenware shop at Yoshidamachi. No further reports had been received at any of the Police Offices when we went to press.

We learn from Japanese papers that the building of the Diet received some damage. A dozen soldiers of the 2nd Regiment of the Imperial Bodyguard were somewhat seriously injured by jumping out of the windows of barracks. Telegrams from Ibaraki, Sendai, Sakata, Utsunomiya, Amori, Chiba, Kofu, Shizuoka, and Nagoya all report ashock of earthquake experienced on the same night.

HONGKONG.

The event of the past week has been St. George's Ball, which took place on the 23rd inst. and was a brilliant success. The Taipingshan Arbitration Board is still continuing its adjudication on the claims of the owners of property in the condemned area. The New Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited, has received favourable news from the mines. On the 24th inst. a gunboat built by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited, to the order of the Spanish Government for service in the Philippines, was launched from Kowloon Docks. The cricket match played on the 25th and 26th inst. between the Club and the Army and Navy resulted in a victory for the Club on the first innings. On the 28th inst. a very enjoyable children's performance was given in the ball room at Government House for the benefit of children's charities, the piece presented being "Ragged Robin." The P. M. steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, which recently struck a rock on the coast of Japan, as already reported, arrived here on the 28th inst. and will go into dock for repairs. News has been received that the N. P. steamer *Victoria*, which left this on the 23rd inst. for Tacoma, came into collision in Moji harbour with the *Ariake Maru* and sustained rather serious injuries, but after placing a patch on the rent in her side she was able to go on to Kobe for survey. The two Winglok Street murderers Au Chun and Li Pong were executed on the 29th inst.

There were 1,117 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 117 were Europeans.

Amongst the passengers by the P. & O. steamer *Formosa*, which left for home on Thursday were Colonel Macdonnell, R.A., and Lieut.-Colonel St. Paul, of the Rifle Brigade.

On Friday Mr. H. E. Wodehouse continued the inquiry into the circumstances connected with the fire at No. 337, Queen's Road West. Nothing definite was developed and the court adjourned till Friday next at 10.30.

An interesting cricket match was played at Happy Valley on Wednesday between teams representing Queen's College and St. Joseph's College, which resulted in a victory for the latter, the runs being 74 for St. Joseph's and 66 for the Queen's.

The German steamer *Irene* of the Kingsin line, which caught fire at Yokohama last month, is coming to Hongkong for repairs. Messrs. Simon, Evers & Co., her Yokohama agents, advertised in the local press for estimates on the work; but although there were many firms who would have gladly undertaken the contract, in view of the fact that the Yokosuka people, in consequence of their engagements with the Government, would not surrender their docks for more than two or three days, it was impossible to guarantee a fulfilment of the contract within any specified period. As there seems to be no probability of the Yokohama Docks being constructed, the *Japan Gazette* understands that a scheme is in contemplation by a few influential and experienced foreigners for the construction of a floating pontoon dock. This would obviate the sending of such vessels as the *Irene* to Hongkong.

A few gentlemen of the colony, interested in the education and entertainment of the young, have clubbed together and imported from home a fine pair of magic-lanterns that can be used with oil, calcium light, or electric appliances. The instruments are of the best workmanship, being of mahogany frames, lined with air-cushioned Russia-iron, and with all mountings and fittings in heavy and highly finished brass. The lenses are of the best quality and will give pictures from the size of a dollar to that of a house. They have also imported a select assortment of slides to begin with and will add to their stock as occasion suggests. They will operate the lanterns at present with oil, and, on Saturday night, gave their maiden exhibition to the young folks at the Soldiers' and Sailors' Institute, Queen's Road East. This was the regular quarterly meeting of the little people and, after the tea and recitations and songs, the stereopticons were brought out and from seven to nine p.m. the gathering of from two to three hundred young and old were treated to a beautiful exhibition of magic scene effects. Mr. W. Machell is the prime mover in this enterprise and was the lecturer and planner of the evening's feast for the young.

The Plague Recognition General Committee are compelled to make another appeal for subscriptions, owing to the Chinese community having subscribed only \$145 instead of the \$2,000 expected, and the plague concerts having realised only \$416 instead of the \$1,500 estimated.

On Tuesday afternoon the annual tea and prize distribution of the Union Church Sunday School was held. There was a large attendance and the affair passed off most pleasantly, the fourteen recitations, songs, and instrumental pieces being very creditably given. Among the prizes little Miss Daisy Mather received the first for attendance and Miss Mary Rodger as usual took almost all the other first prizes that were open to competition.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

On the 15th inst. a large quantity of warlike stores, consisting of quick firing guns, rifles, and cartridges, was, under the command of Admiral Cheng Shin Chung, conveyed to Tiger Pass for the use of the garrison there.

The 26th inst. being the Chinese New Year all officials will, according to the usual custom, assemble at the Wan-shin Temple at the fifth watch and worship before the effigy of His Majesty the Emperor. The 4th proximo is the birthday of the Empress and on that morning the door of the same temple will be again opened for the reception of the officials of every rank, who will perform the same ceremony as a token of congratulation. On the 3rd prox. the two Magistrates will go through the usual ceremony of receiving the Spring, in the hope of having a good harvest this year.

On the 17th inst. seven convicts were conveyed under escort to Canton from Kowloon city and taken to the Viceroy's yamen. It is said that one of these culprits was an accomplice of Wong Chi, who was recently found guilty of collecting men on behalf of the Japanese Government and beheaded.

Owing to many blackmailing letters having been received by the traders, a petition signed by the Wai Sing lottery guild, bankers, salt dealers, &c., has been presented to the Viceroy asking for protection. In compliance with this request, the Government have now ordered numbers of soldiers to be stationed at different posts, so as to guard against any breach of the peace. The authorities have also posted up notices offering a reward of \$100 to anyone who may give information leading to the apprehension of any scoundrel connected with such extortion. It is stated that several arrests have been made up to the present.

The war loan contribution collected by the Customs recently aggregated Tls. 1,837,750, and the amount promised by the seventy-two guilds in the city was Tls. 1,000,000. It is hoped that the collection will soon be accomplished.

NEWCHWANG.

1st January.

Since writing to you on Christmas Day there has not been a battle of any consequence. Skirmishes between scouting parties constantly take place, and a wondrous story is told of the doings of the "Frontier Hunters," about 4,000 of whom have come from the north under the leadership of the celebrated Han Chang-shun. They are well mounted, well armed, and are excellent marksmen, and are reported to have attacked the Japanese last week at night time, and to have killed about a thousand of them with very little loss to themselves. Very little credence can be attached to this, but there is no doubt if these men act as they propose to do, viz., keep out of sight of the enemy in daylight and worry them at night, they may be very troublesome to the invaders.

General Sung with his army, which must now number about 40,000 men, still occupies the villages north, north-west, and north-east of us. We can see some soldiers and tents a few miles off, and supplies of ammunition and grain are constantly passing through the settlement. On the last day of the old year we could hear constant firing from both small and large guns, which was evidently taking place a few miles to the north-east of us. At first we thought a battle was being fought, but soon scouts brought in the news that General Sung was training his soldiers and testing some guns, which had recently arrived from Tientsin. The big guns at

the south-west fort were also being fired, so we have something to interest us and prevent us sleeping too much this winter.

The Japanese northern army has captured and is fortifying the town of Anshanchang, which is about half-way between Haicheng and Liaoyang. They still continue to strengthen the forts at Haicheng. We have heard no really reliable news of the movements of the southern army, who are reported by some to have gone east. Probably by this time they will have joined Marshal Yamagata's forces, for the advance on Moukden, between which city and Liaoyang there must be at least 50,000 Chinese and Manchurian troops. With this large army at Moukden and Sung's army at Tienchwangtsai, the Chinese ought to be able to offer some resistance to the enemy. The natives here say that at last their turn has come, and the Japanese are to be wiped out. Haicheng is to be recaptured, and other wonderful things are to happen. We shall see.

Far worse than any enemy must be the weather which at present prevails throughout the province. On Wednesday last, the 26th ult., there was a blizzard, which must have severely tried all men and beasts. It commenced with rain, then changed into sleet, and next came very small and blinding snow, with bitterly cold north winds. This was followed by two or three days of very cold weather with the thermometer at or below zero every night, and during the last three days the wind has been from the south, causing the snow, especially where much trodden on, to thaw. All this must severely try the Japanese, as no foot gear, however good, will stand such weather and we expect to hear that before Moukden has been reached thousands of the Japanese have died or been rendered unfit for active service. The coldest month has yet to come, and already constant reports are coming in about the terrible sufferings of the Japanese from frost bites and other troubles of the feet.

It is interesting to watch the troops from time to time marching through the settlement. They pass along the narrow roadway between H.B.M.'s Consulate and the bows of the gunboats. On the one side gaily and comfortably dressed soldiers, with a beautiful white bull's eye on the front and back of their uniforms, which must prove very convenient targets for the enemy, flags flying, trumpets braying, and here and there a mounted officer; on the other side the earthworks round the gunboats with the sentries marching up and down, and the officers on the alert, ready for any emergency. Above the earthworks can be seen the main batteries and machine guns, and high above all, in the fighting tops, there are three nasty looking but very useful machine guns mounted on carriages, ready for service in any part of the settlement, so people need not be surprised that we feel secure and have been able to spend a very pleasant Christmas.

Our usual New Year's Ball took place and was thoroughly enjoyed, and in wishing each other a Happy New Year we one and all trust that war may have ceased before many months more, as although it is interesting, it is awful to think of the suffering going on all round us. From all sides we hear of great poverty and distress amongst the people, and from towns and villages the residents are fleeing frightened of their own soldiers and of the enemy.

Last week a native of Honan warned the merchants that their property was not safe in the foreign godowns, and unless it was removed to the native town the godowns would be looted. He was promptly arrested and without any delay was beheaded. His head is at present hanging in a cage at the east gate, which is at the end of the foreign settlement.

On the 29th ult. the river at last froze over, and to-day the natives are crossing in thousands to the extensive reed marsh on the other side. Quickly overpowering the owner and his assistants they are quietly stealing thousands of bundles of reeds, and these will be used for fuel, instead of making them into mats. The owner appealed in vain to the Taotai for help; it would have been a very difficult task to prevent the poor people carrying out their designs, as every man and boy seemed to be engaged in the task. This will help to tide over the distress of the next few months, as little or no millet stalk is coming into the market.

From eye witnesses and others a fairly accurate account of the battle of Kangwangtsai is obtain-

able. General Sung, after leaving Kaichou, retired to the village of Kangwangtsai, where as quickly as possible he threw up earth and snow works. On the 18th December his scouts came across those of the enemy and a few shots were exchanged. Next day the main body of the enemy advanced and offered battle to the Chinese. General Sung's army, numbering about 17,500, was arranged in three divisions. In the village itself General Sung took up his position and directed the movements. General Ma with 3,500 men was with him. General Liu with 7,500 men occupied a good position about two miles to the north of the village and the heavy artillery was about the same distance to the south-east. The Japanese were first seen at 8 a.m. advancing from the east and the heavy guns opened fire on them when two and three miles distant. Although some of the fire was well directed, the Japanese held their ground, and when the main body, numbering about 10,000 men, were seen about noon steadily advancing, General Sung ordered the artillery to retire, fearing the capture of the guns. General Liu with his troops also fell back on the fortifications around Kangwangtsai. In the afternoon the Japanese had advanced to within 2 li of the village and obtained good cover in a small wood, and from that position made good use of their artillery, which quickly knocked down the houses and earthworks. As evening came on the Chinese abandoned their position and retired towards Tienchwangtsai; the Japanese did not pursue them, but returned to Haicheng. It is impossible to discover the number of killed and wounded. Roughly speaking about 200 on either side were killed. The Japanese loss was as heavy as the Chinese owing to the good cover the latter enjoyed at the commencement of the battle. All the Japanese wounded were carried to Haicheng the day of the fight, and next morning the frozen corpses were buried. The Chinese wounded and dead were left on the plain, and a few of the former have been carried to this town.—N. C. Daily News correspondent.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A telegram from Raub, dated 11th inst., reads as follows:—"Crushing finished, 1,200 tons stone realized 807 ounces smelted gold. Prospects good."

A telegram has been received at Shanghai from Chefoo announcing the safe arrival at that port by the U.S.S. *Yorktown* of the missionaries stationed at T'engchow.

It is reported that the Taotai of Feng-hwang has committed suicide by taking gold, as he fears the loss of that place might be placed to his blame.

The Emperor has by a recent decree presented Admiral Yang of Amoy, Commander-in-Chief of the forces in Formosa, with an Imperial Yellow Riding Jacket, or *Huang makua*.

The wreck of the steamer *Taiwo*, lost on the Centaur Crossing, has been sold by auction at Shanghai for the sum of Tls. 280. The entire remaining cargo on board of the ship was sold for the nominal sum of Tls. 205.

It is rumoured, says the *Kobe Herald*, that Nagasaki is to be shortly made into a naval port, and that not more than two foreign men-of-war of any nationality will be allowed in the harbour at the same time. If a decision to this effect has really been arrived at it will not be very pleasing to the Russian Government. The reason assigned for this step, which looks very much like a slap at Russia, is that the harbour is a small one and it is feared that merchant vessels will not have enough room.

On the 12th inst. the fine new steel steamship *Suma*, built at the Mitsu Bishi Co's shipyard at Tatagami, was successfully launched. This is said to be the largest steel steamship built in the East up to the present time. Her dimensions are:—Length between perpendiculars, 247'0"; breadth moulded, 34'0"; depth, moulded to main deck, 15'9"; depth, mean, with Lloyd's freeboard, 16'8½"; speed, fully loaded, 10½ knots; dead weight carrying capacity, 1,750 tons; gross tonnage, 1,485 tons; engines, triple expansion of usual type; diameter of cylinders, 18½", 30", and 40½"; length of stroke, 36"; two single-ended steel boilers, with working pressure of 150 lbs. per square inch; indicated horse-power 925.

Sung Fan, Governor of Kweichow, has been transferred to the Governorship of Yunnan, vice Tan Chün-pei, deceased, and Tê Shou, another Manchu, Treasurer of Anhui province, has been promoted to take Sung Fan's place in Kweichow.

A Yokohama telegram to the *Shanghai Mercury* reads as follows:—An official telegram dated Fusan the 17th instant, states that on the night of the 12th a detachment of Japanese troops from Rakutong attacked a large body of Tonghaks at Hohon, Province Chiuseido. The attack was repeated on the morning of the 13th, when the rebels were defeated and completely dispersed, with a loss of several hundreds killed. The remainder fled northwards, leaving in the hands of the victors a quantity of cattle, horses, and arms.

A Yokohama telegram to the *Shanghai Mercury* gives the substance of a telegram, dated Haiching, 17th inst., in which General Nodzu reports thirty-four battalions of Chinese in the vicinity of Yingkow, commanded by Generals Hsiw, Chang, Sho, and Ko. A Chinese force, six thousand strong, was observed advancing north-west from Fohensai. Another force, about two thousand strong, with five guns, and a force of four thousand, are near Hinmochang. The First and Second Japanese Armies have made mutual arrangements regarding Newchwang and Yingkow.

At the regular meeting of the Eothen Mark Lodge, No. 264, held on Monday night, Bro. R. Cooke was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year and appointed his officers as follows:—S. W., Bro. P. R. Simmonds, J. W., Bro. S. L. Darby, M. O., Bro. J. R. Crook, S. O., Bro. E. C. Ellis, J. G., Bro. S. J. Hanisch, Chaplain, Bro. Rev. St. A. Baylee, Treasurer, Bro. A. O'D. Gourdin, Reg. of Marks, Bro. A. Tillett, Secretary, Bro. J. Dyer Ball, S. D., Bro. D. Macdonald, J. D., Bro. G. L. Tomlin, D. C., Bro. J. R. Schwarzkopf, Organist, Bro. C. W. Longuet, I. G., Bro. F. F. F. Kiene, Steward, Bro. W. M. Wood, Tyler, Bro. J. R. Grimble.

In December, 1893, a stabbing affray took place at Shanghai, near the Rifle Butts, in which some sailors belonging to the German mail steamer *Preussen* fatally stabbed a young native apprentice carpenter and wounded a jinricksha coolie. In addition to various sentences punishing the guilty persons at the German courts of Bremen, the German government intend, the *N. C. Daily News* says, to compensate the family of the murdered young man and the jinricksha coolie in the sums of \$300 and \$150, respectively. According to the usual mode of procedure this money should be sent to the Mixed Court magistrate and by him be handed to the sufferers. As the character of yamen underlings is too well-known, the mothers of the dead apprentice and the jinricksha coolie have, we hear, petitioned the German Consul-General to be allowed to receive their money direct from him instead of through the yamen. No reply has as yet been given to the petitioners, but it is to be hoped that the German Consular authorities will see that the persons to be indemnified get their dues.

A correspondent who, the *N. C. Daily News* says, has had the advantage of long experience in forming his opinions sends to that journal the following about the Admiral of the Peiyang Squadron:—Despite Tientsin telegrams there seems good reason to believe that Admiral Ting Jueh'ang is still at Weihaiwei, for we understood that by Imperial orders he is permitted to remain at his post for the present. It yet remains to be shown that Ting deserves the censure that has fallen upon him. As to the charge of cowardice, his early military career, the active measures he took when assisting Governor Liu of Formosa in 1888, and the opinion of those Europeans who have had best opportunity of judging by personal intercourse with him, all deny the accusation. Ting is further charged with being partly responsible for the loss of Port Arthur, but where was the authority that must accompany responsibility? His command was afloat, not ashore; what power he had there was due to influence, which authority was entirely centred in Tientsin, a fact well known there. Surely it is unjust that opinions, irresponsible in some cases, unjust in others, should receive such ready credence, and memorials from such officials as Governor Li of Shantung, who is far away from the seat of war and can only speak from hearsay, should have such power to damn brother officials.

The export of cotton yarn from Japan to China is reported to have been entirely suspended of late.

From Japan papers we learn that the German steamer *Brema* has been transferred to a Japanese, who is reported to have purchased her for £10,500. The *Glucksburg* has been purchased by the Chuetsu Steamship Stock Company and rechristened the *Hinomaru*, to regularly run between Kobe and Hokkaido. The *Nara-maru* (late *Metapedia*), now owned by Mr. Hiromi, of Osaka, is also put on the Hokkaido line.

H.M.S. *Redpole* left Shanghai early on the 23rd instant for Wenchow, having been despatched there at the request of Mr. M. F. A. Fraser, H.B.M.'s Acting Consul, who reports a disturbed state of the the Wenchow district, where brigandage is rampant. As Mr. Fraser reports that a strong anti-foreign feeling is displayed by the officials some protection for foreigners is urgently needed, and consequently the *Redpole* has been despatched to Wenchow for the protection of foreign residents.

Singapore papers to hand contain report of the great public meeting held on the 11th inst. to express approval of the resignation of the unofficial members of Council, Justices of the Peace, and Chinese Advisory Board. The meeting was a large and enthusiastic one and entirely unanimous. In one feature, however, it was not entirely successful; it was hoped that ladies would attend, but only one responded to the invitation. The Penang members of Council and Justices of the Peace have not joined their friends in the sister settlement in resigning. The reason appears to be that Penang is as much irritated at the treatment it receives from Singapore as Singapore is irritated at the treatment it receives from the home Government. It seems to be a case (reversed) of "the little fleas that do us tease have lesser fleas to bite 'em." Mr. Huttenbach, one of the Singapore unofficials, has since withdrawn his resignation of his seat in Council. Mr. Huttenbach did not resign directly over the "military contribution" question.

COMMERCIAL. TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1894-95 lbs.	1893-94 lbs.
Yokohama.....	28,462,134	28,623,687
Kobe	16,645,876	16,480,793
	45,108,010	45,104,480

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1894-95 lbs.	1893-94 lbs.
Canton and Macao.....	7,597,185	8,178,734
Amoy.....	740,767	699,647
Foochow	13,777,348	21,329,281
Shanghai and Hankow	21,551,498	25,514,030
	43,706,798	55,721,692

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1894-95 lbs.	1893-94 lbs.
Canton.....	3,063,400	1,349,192
Amoy.....	16,894,081	19,376,012
Foochow	8,140,519	5,883,106
Shanghai.....	25,783,527	24,176,823
	53,881,527	50,785,133

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1894-95 lbs.	1893-94 lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai	22,555,223	21,619,462

SILK.

CANTON, 20th January.—Business is at present interrupted by the Chinese New Year holiday. Reviewing the fortnight, there are no settlements to report in Tsatlees or Re-reels. The season's supply is almost exhausted and stocks are so much reduced that it is impossible to give quotations for this class. Filatures.—The excessively high prices asked by dealers after the activity reported in our last circular caused nearly all buyers to retire immediately from the market. A few purchases however, continued to be made at the advanced rates on the basis of \$700 to \$690 for Kwang Wo Hing 11/13, 13/15, and \$660 to \$670 for 2nd class 10/12,

but these also speedily ceased and business fell into a state of complete stagnation up to its present entire suspension by the native holidays. Subjoined quotations are consequently nominal and will remain so until the re-opening of the market. Purchases for America have been confined to 40 bales Koum King 14/16 at \$610. Waste.—Has been very little dealt in and apart from Steam Waste, which has sold in small quantities at \$96 to \$97 for Extra and \$77 for No. 1, no business has transpired. Stocks:—Tsatlees 150 bales. Cumchuck nil bales. Filature 1,000 bales. We append quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons. Exchange 6 months' sight, 2/0½ and Fcs. 2.54 per Dollar.

Filature, 1st Class, 11/13	\$710
1st .. 13/15	\$700
2nd .. 10/12	\$675 to \$695
2nd .. 13/15	\$660 to \$680
3rd .. 10/12	\$660 to \$675
3rd .. 13/15	\$570 to \$680
Punjum Books No. 3 & 4	\$ 95 = 1/7½
Punjum Waste	\$ 86 = 1/6
Steam Waste Extra ..	\$ 97 = 1/8½
No. 1	\$ 77 = 1/4½
Gum Waste	No. 2 \$ 62 = 1/1
Pierced Cocoons.....	\$ 60 = 1/0½

SHANGHAI, 24th January.—(From Messrs. Cromie & Burkill's circular.)—London telegrams dated 22nd current report the market "firm." Gold Kilings are quoted 7/7½, and Blue Elephants at 7/6 per lb. Raw Silk.—After the large business of the previous week, the market has been quiet, with only small settlements. Holders have been more easy to deal with and prices are 7½ to 10 Taels down from the highest point. Tsatlees.—About 400 bales have changed hands at drooping rates. At the close we quote:—Mountain 4 Tls. 385, Gold Lion Tls. 370, Gold Kiling Tls. 340. Taysaams.—With the exception of a small parcel of Skeins nothing has been done in these sorts. Yellow Silks.—Have attracted a fair amount of attention at unchanged rates. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, from the 17th to 23rd January, are 1,087 bales of White, 230 bales of Yellow, and 358 bales of Wild Silk. Re-reels and Filatures.—Have been dealt in to a large extent; the latter at an advance of Tls. 10, and the former at an advance of Tls. 2½ per picul. The bulk of the business are contracts for delivery in two to three months. Wild Silks.—Some business has been passing in Tussah Filatures 4 Cocoons at Tls. 225, and Tussah Raws market No. 1 at Tls. 155. Waste Silk.—The only business we hear of is a parcel of Szechuen light Tussah Waste which was sold at Tls. 19. Pongees.—Nothing to report.

Purchases include:—Tsatlees.—Yellow Elephant at Tls. 390, Mountain 4 at Tls. 385, Gold Lion at Tls. 370, Gold Kiling at Tls. 340, Silver Double Elephant at Tls. 342½, Siebing Quongfoong at Tls. 337½. Skeins.—Leeyang Green Monsters at Tls. 250. Yellow Silk.—Mienchew at Tls. 232½, Kopun at Tls. 230, Wongyi at Tls. 205 to Tls. 210, Foo-yung at Tls. 195 to Tls. 200, Szechong at Tls. 165. Filatures.—Veckee Old Man chop Croissee Extra at Tls. 512½, do. No. 1 at Tls. 502½, do. No. 2 at Tls. 492½, Market Chop (not croissee) 1 at Tls. 450, do. 2 at Tls. 440, do. 3 at Tls. 430. Re-reels.—Worm and Leaf 1, 2, and 3 at Tls. 382½, 372½, and 362½, Red Pagoda 1, 2, and 3 at Tls. 382½, 372½, and 362½. Wild Silk.—Tussah Raw Market 1 at Tls. 155, Filature Tussah 4 Cocoons at Tls. 225.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1894-95 bales.	1893-94 bales.
Canton.....	6,478	2,329
Shanghai.....	6,350	2,051
Yokohama	21,151	10,245
	33,974	14,625

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1894-95 bales.	1893-94 bales.
Canton	12,431	13,648
Shanghai	41,827	41,420
Yokohama	14,933	15,592

Total to date 69,191 70,660

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 30th January.—Nothing has been done during the past week, but prices are higher. Quotations for Formosa are \$28.50 to \$29.00.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 30th January.—Very little business doing, but a slight reserving in rates has to be noted. Following are the quotations:—Shekloong, No. 1, White ... \$7.58 to 7.60 per picul. do. ,, 2, White ... 6.98 to 7.00 ..

Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.85 to 4.90	per picul
do. " 2, Brown...	4.67 to 4.70	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.47 to 7.50	"
do. " 2, White...	6.88 to 6.90	"
do. " 1, Brown...	4.57 to 4.60	"
Swatow, No. 2, Brown...	4.37 to 4.40	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	11.00 to 11.05	"
Shekloong	9.65 to 9.70	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The American ship *Wandering Jew*, Hongkong to New York, 3rd January, took:—18,460 rolls Matting, 11,501 packages Firecrackers, 500 bales Broken Cassia, 200 cases Ginger, 155 boxes Tea, 92 bales Battancore, 66 packages Battan furniture, 47 boxes Woodware, and 28 packages Merchandise.

The steamer *Salazie*, Hongkong to London, 9th January, took:—15 cases Private Effects; for Continent:—205 bales Raw Silk, 25 bales Waste Silk, 14 bales Hair, 33 cases Silk Piece Goods, 33 Essential Oil, 18 cases Blackwoodware, 11 cases Glass Ranges, 58 cases Furniture and Effects, 4 cases Paper, 240 cases Chinaware, 250 cases Staranised, 2 cases Silverware and Skins, 30 boxes Tea, and 42 rolls Matting.

The American schooner *E. K. Wood*, Hongkong to San Francisco, 10th January, took:—36 packages Rattans, 3,740 bags Rice, 166 packages Fire Crackers, 270 bags Beans, 2,011 packages Samshoo, 1,330 jars Soy, 403 boxes Tobacco, 166 boxes Root flour, 262 boxes Sago flour, 1,475 boxes Oil, 158 boxes Joss-sticks, 530 boxes Sugar, 565 boxes Tea (unknown), 18 bundles Matting, and 3,699 packages Merchandise.

The steamer *Palinurus*, Hongkong to London, 11th January, took:—1,983 boxes Tea (43,813 lbs. Scented Caper Sorts), 86 cases Cigars, 115 bales Hemp, 412 bales Canes, 5 cases Blackwoodware, 175 bales Waste Silk, 16 cases Curios, 157 cases Chinaware, 100 cases Soy, 30 cases Bristles, 2,654 Preserves, 625 cases Preserves, 17 cases Woodcases, 124 cases Aniseed Oil, 111 rolls Matting, 25 boxes Essential Oil, 915 Merchandise, 1 box Gold, and 2 cases Silk Piece Goods; for Liverpool:—5 cases Aniseed Oil, 17 packages Merchandise, and 7 cases Cigars; for Transhipment:—2 cases Cigars, 51 cases Bristles, 35 cases Gallnuts, 100 cases Cassia Buds, and 86 cases Ginger.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 30th January.—Bengal.—During the past week the first importation of Bengal Opium, season 1893-94, arrived by the *Wingsang*, and has found purchasers at \$850 for New Patna and \$850 for New Benares, which are the closing figures. Old Patna and Old Benares are quoted firm at \$870 and \$860 respectively.

Malwa.—The market has ruled steady throughout the interval. Latest quotations are as under:—

New	.....	\$710	with allow'ce of 0 to 2 cts.
Old (2 to 3 yrs.)	.....	\$720	" " " " " " " "
" (4 to 5 yrs.)	.....	\$730	" " " " " " " "
" (6 to 7 yrs.)	.....	\$740	" " " " " " " "
Persian	.....	There has been a considerable advance in prices during the period under review. Current figures for Oily are \$730 to \$750, and for Paper-wrapped \$780 to \$835 according to quality. To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—	
Old Patna	.....	2,280	chests.
New Patna	.....	290	"
Old Benares	.....	1,250	"
New Benares	.....	139	"
Malwa	.....	1,170	"
Persian	.....	1,150	"

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1895.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Jan. 24	—	872½	—	885	710	720/740
Jan. 25	—	872½	—	885	710	720/740
Jan. 26	—	870	—	885	710	720/740
Jan. 27	—	870	—	885	710	720/740
Jan. 28	—	870	—	885	710	720/740
Jan. 29	855	870	837½	885	710	720/740
Jan. 30	880	870	855	860	710	720/740

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 30th January.—Market unchanged. Stocks: 1,729 bales Bengal; 290 bales Kurrachee, 77 bales Rangoon, and about 1,500 bales of Chinese Cotton.

Bombay	.....	\$12.00 to 14.00	p. picul
Kurrachee	.....	12.00 to 14.00	"
Bengal, Rangoon, and	.....	12.00 to 15.00	"
Dacca	.....	12.00 to 15.00	"
Shanghai and Japanese	.....	16.00 to 16.75	"
Tungchow and Ningpo	.....	16.00 to 16.75	"
Madras	.....	14.00 to 15.00	"

Sales: 10 bales Kurrachee, 215 bales Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca, 500 bales Shanghai and Japanese, Tungchow and Ningpo.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 30th January.—Owing to the China New Year holidays little business has been done, but prices have advanced. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	.....	\$1.97 to 2.00	per picul
" Round, good quality	.....	2.22 to 2.24	"
" Long	.....	2.32 to 2.35	"
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	.....	2.07 to 2.10	"
" Garden, " No. 1	.....	2.43 to 2.45	"
Siam White	.....	2.85 to 2.88	"
" Fine Cargo	.....	3.10 to 3.14	"

COALS.

HONGKONG, 30th January.—Sales of 2,500 tons Cardiff at \$12 to arrive have been made; beyond this there is no business to report. Quotations are:—

Cardiff	.....	\$12.00 to 13.00	ex ship, nominal.
Australian	.....	9.50 to 10.00	ex ship, sellers.
Milke Lump	.....	7.25 to 7.50	ex ship, nominal.
Milke Small	.....	6.25 to 6.50	ex ship, nominal.
Moji Lump	.....	6.50 to 7.00	ex ship, steady.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 30th January.—The market has been closed for the greater part of the interval owing to the China New Year holidays. Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARNS AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarns*.—150 bales No. 10 at \$68 to \$72, 60 bales No. 12 at \$73 to \$73½, and 235 bales No. 20 at \$80½ to \$83. *White Shirtings*.—500 pieces S.O. at \$3.90, 500 pieces Flower at \$4.55, 750 pieces No. 3 at \$3.32½, 500 pieces Black Stag at \$2.10, 500 pieces Black Seal at \$2. *Grey Shirtings*.—8½ lbs.—600 pieces Green Seal at \$2.35, 600 pieces Red 7 Boys at \$2.47½, 300 pieces Blue Dragon at \$2.85, 600 pieces Blue Joss at \$2.87½, 300 pieces Double Fulong at \$2.77½, 600 pieces Elephant and Snake at \$2.75, 10 lbs.—500 pieces Blue 7 Boys at \$3.20, 250 pieces Blue Joss at \$3.40. *T. Cloths*.—*Bombay* 6 lbs.—150 pieces at \$1.67. *Mexican* 7 lbs.—750 pieces Blue Dragon BB at \$2.20, 2,250 pieces Red Stag at \$2.22½, 750 pieces Silver Joss at \$1.97½, 375 pieces Silver Dragon at \$2.10, 8 lbs.—1,200 pieces Red Stag at \$2.57½, 300 pieces Gold Dragon at \$2.57½. *Drills*.—225 pieces 14 lbs. Dragon at \$3.80. *Cotton Spanish Stripes*.—120 pieces at \$0.28½, to arrive. *Long Ells*.—250 pieces 8 lbs. Scarlet at \$1.90, 250 pieces 9 lbs. Scarlet at \$7.15. *Camlets*.—100 pieces of Old Men Assorted at \$17.50, 50 pieces 8 Persons Assorted at \$17.50.

METALS.—*Iron*.—230 Kegs Wire Nails at \$5. *Lead*.—840 pieces L. B. at \$6.55. *Quicksilver*.—300 flasks at \$117.

COTTON YARN.		per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20	.....	\$62.00 to \$87.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24	.....	95.00 to 100.00
" 22 to 24	.....	101.00 to 105.00
" 28 to 32	.....	108.00 to 114.00
" 38 to 42	.....	116.00 to 125.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.		per piece
Grey Shirtings—6½ lbs.	.....	1.40 to 1.50
7½ lbs.	.....	1.85 to 2.05
8½ lbs.	.....	2.40 to 3.10
9 to 10 lbs.	.....	3.25 to 3.60

White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	.....	2.10 to 2.30
58 to 60 "	.....	2.60 to 3.10
64 to 66 "	.....	3.20 to 3.60
Fine	.....	3.90 to 6.20
Book-folds	.....	3.50 to 5.20
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	.....	0.60 to 1.35
T. Cloths—6½ lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y.	.....	1.40 to 1.50
7½ lbs. (32 " )	.....	1.80 to 1.90
6½ lbs. (32 ") Mexs.	.....	1.60 to 1.70
7½ lbs. (32 " )	.....	2.05 to 2.25
8 to 8½ lbs. (36 in.)	.....	2.20 to 2.90
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 4½ lbs.	.....	3.20 to 4.20

FANCY COTTONS
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5½ lbs. 1.30 to 2.70

Brocades—Dyed	.....	3.90 to 4.95
Damasks	.....	0.13 to 0.17
Chintzes—Assorted	.....	0.07 to 0.12
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	.....	0.21 to 0.32
Velveteens—18 in.	.....	0.18 to 0.24

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.55 to 0.90
WOOLLENS
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. 0.55 to 0.85

Gorman	.....	0.95 to 1.10
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.	.....	1.20 to 2.60
Long Ells—Scarlet	.....	6.50 to 7.80
Assorted	.....	6.60 to 7.90
Camlets—Assorted	.....	14.00 to 29.00

Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, } 13.50 to 21.00
Assorted }

Orleans—Plain 3.70 to 4.90

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. 4.50 to 9.00

METALS
Iron—Nail Rod 3.20 to —

Square, Flat Round Bar 3.15 to 3.20

Swedish Bar 4.35 to —

Small Round Rod 3.50 to —

Hoop 4.60 to —

Old Wire Rope 3.00 to —

Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop 6.50 to 6.55

Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/28 oz. 25.50 to —

Vivian's, 16/32 oz. 25.25 to —

Elliot's, 16/28 oz. 25.00 to —

Japan Copper 24.50 to —

Tin 36.00 to —

Tin-Plates 6.00 to —

Steel 5.50 to —

SUNDRIES AND COALS.
Quicksilver 117.00 to —

Window Glass 3.20 to —

Kerosene Oil 1.75 to —

SHANGHAI, 24th January.—(From Mr. G. W. Noel's Piece Goods Trade Report.)—Comparatively few sales of spot cargo have taken place this week, those reported being mostly resales from second hands, but they serve to show the firmness with which the market closes. Up to two days ago orders for Heavy and White Shirtings continued to come in, the telegraphic advice of the execution of them, or otherwise, received this morning finishing the business for the year. Arrangements for the settling have already been made, and it is stated on very good authority that only two of the Piece Goods Hongs have made money this year, one by reselling heavy Shirting that had been contracted for to Japanese houses for the Korean market, and the other out of Russian Cloth, which, considering the small extent of that trade, could not amount to very much. The holidays will extend for the best part of a week and business will be properly resumed again on 31st inst., when the next Yuen Fong auction takes place, to-day's sale having been dropped. The Manchester market is reported quiet, but generally steady. Quotations for White Shirtings are rather easier, but Grey goods show little or no change. The export for the first fortnight of this month was 10,000,000 yards.

Metals and Miscellaneous.—(From Mr. Alex. Richard's report.)—25th January.—The Chinese New Year and settling day taking place to-morrow business may be considered closed for a week or two. There has been quite a spurt in Lead, and 200 tons Australian, to arrive in March, 350 and ton "spot" have been closed at Tls. 5.05 to Tls. 5.25; the market closes firm at Tls. 5.25 for Australian, prompt, and Tls. 5.35 to Tls. 5.40 for L.B. Prices for sales of Iron recorded in my last issue are reported to be \$2.40 for Alliance Nailrods, "spot," \$5.4, c.i.f., for Sohiers, and \$5.17 for Scotch "to arrive." Steel Plate Cuttings, "spot," 11s. 1.79½ good, Tls. 1.75 mixed cargo; "to arrive" 73 c.i.f., &c.; Cobble "spot" 86½. 50 tons Old round iron Wire sold at 83½.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 30th January.—Rates in most of the leading stocks have continued on the upward course during the week under review and although no important business has been transacted the market closes steady with very few sellers.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have continued in fair demand and a few small transactions have taken place at 137, 138, 139, and 140 per cent. prem., market closing firm at latter rate. Other Bank stock remains neglected and unnegotiable at quotations.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been in demand at quotation, but no sales have been reported. China Traders have changed hands at \$61, and Cantons could be placed at \$154. Other Marines are neglected, but firm at quotations.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have improved to \$185 with sales and Chinas to \$78 with sales, both closing steady.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have found buyers at \$26½ and \$26½, Douglas's have changed hands at \$53, and Indo-Chinas at \$37. We have no other business to report in Shipping stocks.

REFINERIES.—Continue neglected at quotations.

MINING.—Punjoms have ruled irregular with sales in the early part of the week at \$6½ and later at \$5.75. At time of writing sales are reported at \$6 and \$6.25, closing with sellers at latter rate. Balmorals, on good private advices from the mine, have jumped to \$4 with sales at that and at \$2.80, \$3, and \$3.50; market closes with sellers at \$4. Nothing else to report in Mining stocks.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Docks have ruled very firm, and shares have changed hands at 85, 86, and 83 per cent. prem., market closing steady at latter rate; the rise is attributable to several large jobs that have recently been put into the Company's hands. Lands have ruled steady at \$51½ with sales in fair quantities. Hongkong Brick and Cements have changed hands at \$4. Electrics at \$4, \$4.25, and \$4.30, and A. S. Watsons at \$9.75 and \$10.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	140 p. ct. buyers
China, Japan, &c.	£25.0	nom.
Do., Founders	£1	2
Nat. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	18½ buyers
Found. Shares	£1	nom.
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	14 sales & sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	14 sellers
China Borneo	\$55	nom.
China Sugar	\$100	153 sellers
Chinese Loan '86 E.	Tls. 250	11 p. ct. pm.
Dakin, Cruickshank & Co.	\$5	11
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	15
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	16 sales & sellers
Green Island Cement	\$50	5 sellers
H. Brick & Cement	\$12.50	14 sales
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	136
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	125
Hongkong Electric	\$8	14.30 buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	165 buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	80 sales & sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	139 sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	1120 sales & buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	88 p. ct. pm. sales & buyers
Hotels—		
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	9 buyers
Shameen	\$20	11
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	1155 sellers
China Fire	\$20	178 buyers
China Traders'	\$25	161 sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	1185 sales
North-China	\$25	Tls. 202
Straits Marine	\$20	123 sales
Union	\$25	1135 buyers
Yangtze	160	81
Land & Building—		
H. Land Invest.	\$50	51 sales & buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	18 buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	104
West Point Buildg.	\$40	15
Luzon Sugar	\$100	148 sellers
Mining—		
New Balmoral	\$3	14 sales & sellers
Charbonnages	\$131.58	175 sellers
Jelebu	\$5	15 sales & sellers
Punjom	\$34	6.25 sales & sellers
Do. (Preference)	\$1	11.75
Raub's	13s 10d.	144 sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China & Manila	\$50	165 sellers
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$5	153 sales
H. Canton, & M.	\$2	126½ sales
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	137 sales
W. China Warehouse Co.	\$37½	140
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	110 sales & sellers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers

SHANGHAI, 25th January.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Business was done on the 18th at 130 per cent. premium, and rates advanced to 135 on the 19th and to 140 on the 22nd. This last sale was to Hongkong, at exchange 72½. To-day shares were parted with at 137½ and 73. Docks.—The Shanghai Dock Co. have sold their property to the Lessees, the Old Dock to S. C. Farnham & Co. at Tls. 150,000, and the Wharf property to the China Merchants' S. N. Co., at Tls. 180,500. S. C. Farnham & Co.—Shares have been placed at Tls. 125. Hongkong and Whampoa Dock shares have been sold at 82 per cent. premium. Shares are wanted at that price. Marine Insurance.—North-Chinas have been sold at Tls. 202½, Yangtses at \$80 and \$81, and Straits at \$24. Fire Insurance.—Hongkongs were placed, from Hongkong, at \$181, and are wanted. Chinas changed hands locally at \$80. Wharfs.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have been placed at Tls. 265 and Tls. 270 for cash, and at Tls. 270 for 28th February. There are cash shares offering at Tls. 270. Hongkong and Kow-

loon Wharf shares were placed, from Hongkong, at \$39. Mining.—Raub Australian Gold Mining shares changed hands at \$4.15. Cargo Boat.—Shanghai Cargo Boat shares were placed at Tls. 146 for delivery on 28th February. Miscellaneous.—Business was done in Shanghai Waterworks shares at Tls. 172½, Shanghai Land Investment shares at Tls. 36, Major Brothers shares at \$25, Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares at Tls. 250 cash, Tls. 255 for 15th February, and Tls. 265 for 31st March, and Shanghai-Lanka Tobacco shares at Tls. 97½ for 28th February, and Tls. 100 for 31st March. Hongkong Land Investment Co., Ltd.—Shares have been placed, from Hongkong, at \$52½, \$53 and \$54, cum dividend. Debentures.—Shanghai Land Investment Co.'s 5½ per cent. Debentures were sold at Tls. 95. Quotations are:—

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—137½ per cent. prem.
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited.—Nominal.
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, Founders.—Nominal.
National Bank of China, Ltd., A.—Nominal.
National Bank of China, Ltd., B.—\$21.
National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—Nom.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 100 per sh.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 28 per sh.
China Mutual S. N. Co.—250 per share.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 60 per sh.
Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$26½ per share.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$53 per share.
Shanghai Dock Co.—Tls. 550 per share.
Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Tls. 300 per share.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 150 per share.
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 125 per share.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—82 per cent. premium.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$60 per share.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 202½ per share.
Union Ins. Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$127½ per share.
Yangtze Insee. Assocn., Ltd.—\$81 per share.
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$155 per share.
Straits Insurance Co., Limited.—\$21 per share.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$183 per sh.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$80 per share.
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$5½ per share.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 270 per share.
Birt's Wharf Hide-curing and Wool-cleaning Company.—Tls. 37 per share.
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$39 per share.
Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Tls. 1 per share.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$6 per share.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares—\$2 per share.
Jelebu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$5 per sh.
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$4.15 p. sh.
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 145 per share.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 122½ per sh.
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 200 per share.
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$4 per share.
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 172½ p. sh.
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 36 p. sh.
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$154 per sh.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$48 per share.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$15 per share.
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.—Tls. 66 per share.
Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$54½ p. sh.
J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited.—\$37½ per share.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 33½ per sh.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 25 per share.
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 250 per sh.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 97½ per share.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.
Shanghai Ice Company.—Tls. 110 per share.
A. S. Watson & Co., Limited.—\$94 per share.
L'Hotel des Colonies.—Tls. 20.
China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company Debentures.—Nominal.
Lyceum Theatre Debentures.—Tls. 12.
Chinese Imp. Gov. Loan, 1886, E.—Tls. 250 (a).
Shanghai Municipal Debentures.—Tls. 100 (a).
Shanghai Land Investment Company Debentures.—Tls. 100 (a).
Shanghai Land Investment Company Debentures.—Tls. 95.
(a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 30th January.—During the past fortnight rates have weakened somewhat and there has been but little demand for tonnage. From Saigon to Hongkong steamers have been fixed at 13 cents, but for ready boats of medium size 14 to 15 cents could probably be obtained. From Saigon to Java 26 cents is offered for loading about the

middle of February, but there does not seem to be any demand for immediate tonnage.

From Bangkok to this no settlement has been made since last report and tonnage is not wanted.

Coal freights from Japan are very dull. To Singapore there is a slight demand at about \$3 per ton, but to Hongkong there is no enquiry. To Shanghai there is one settlement reported at \$1.25 per ton.

For time charter there is but little demand and only fixture is reported.

Two sailers have been taken up for New York at about 16s. per ton and two for San Francisco at about \$3 (gold) per ton.

There are two vessels disengaged in port, registering 2,521 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Lucy A. Nickels—American ship, 1,330 tons, Shanghai, Amoy, and Hongkong to New York (previous charter cancelled).

St. David—American ship, 1,536 tons, Shanghai and Hongkong to New York.

Tillie E. Starbuck—American ship, 1,931 tons, Hongkong to San Francisco.

Coloma—American barque, 854 tons, Hongkong to San Francisco.

Propontis—British steamer, 1,390 tons, Chinkiang to Canton, 16 candareens per picul.

Bantam—Dutch steamer, steamer, 1,521 tons, Saigon to Sourabaya, 30 cents per picul.

Guy Mannering—British steamer, 1,529 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul.

Continental—Dutch steamer, 875 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul.

Ethiopia—British steamer, 1,905 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.

Piccola—German steamer, 875 tons, Moji to Amoy, Swatow, and Hongkong, \$3 per ton.

Taksang—British steamer, 977 tons, Kuchinotzu to Swatow, \$2.50 per ton.

Bygdo—Norwegian steamer, 916 tons, Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$1.25 per ton.

Ask—Danish steamer, 353 tons, Hongkong to Hongkong, \$1.50 per ton.

Ethiopia—British steamer, 1,905 tons, monthly, 3/3 months.

WEDNESDAY, 30th January. CLOSING QUOTATIONS. EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	—
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/0½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/0½
ON PARIS.	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.48
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.53
ON GERMANY.	
On demand	2.00
ON NEW YORK.	
Bank Bills, on demand	48
Credits, 60 days' sight	49½
ON BOMBAY.	
Telegraphic Transfer	187
Bank, on demand	187½
ON CALCUTTA.	
Telegraphic Transfer	187
Bank, on demand	187½
ON SHANGHAI.	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.	
On demand	½ % dis.
ON MANILA.	
On demand	15 % pm., nom.
ON SINGAPORE.	
On demand	par.
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$9.95
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	51.70

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Oceanic* (str.), *Java* (str.), *Ceylon* (str.), *Benledi* (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—*Natal* (str.).
For BREMEN.—*Darmstadt* (str.).
For HAVRE.—*Mascotte* (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of India* (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Belgie* (str.), *City of Peking* (str.), *Tillie E. Starbuck*.
For NEW YORK.—*Pathan* (str.), *Glenshiel* (str.), *Lucille*, *St. David*.
For AUSTRALIA.—*Taiquan* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

January—
ARRIVALS.
23. Holstein, German str., from Saigon.
23. Formosa, British str., from Shanghai.
23. Propontis, British str., from Pakhoi.
23. Glenearn, British str., from London.
23. Peiyang, German str., from Chinkiang.
23. Mathilde, German str., from Quinhon.

23, Riversdale, British str., put back.
 24, Tsinan, British str., from Sydney.
 24, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
 24, Kwanglee, British str., from Shanghai.
 24, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 24, Japan, British str., from London.
 24, Esang, British str., from Canton.
 24, P. O. Klao, British str., from Bangkok.
 24, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.
 25, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 25, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 25, Siam, British str., from Saigon.
 25, Chusan, German str., from Canton.
 26, Frejr, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
 26, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.
 26, Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.
 26, Leander, British cruiser, from Chemulpo.
 27, City of Rio de Janeiro, Amr. str., from San Francisco.

27, Formosa, British str., from Swatow.
 27, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 27, Hangchow, British str., from Chinkiang.
 27, Lifoo, German str., from Shanghai.
 27, Lienshing, British str., from Chinkiang.
 27, Orono, British str., from Saigon.
 27, Presto, German str., from Quinhon.
 28, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 28, Rio, German str., from Singapore.
 28, Verona, British str., from Yokohama.
 28, Keemun, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Rosetta, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Taichow, British str., from Bangkok.
 28, Wingsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 28, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 28, Benlawers, British str., from Saigon.
 28, Lyderhorn, Norw. str., from Kutchinotzu.
 28, Nanyang, German str., from Chinkiang.
 28, Soochow, British str., from Chinkiang.
 28, Tillie E. Starbuck, Amr. sh., from Shanghai.
 28, Beatrice, British str., from Saigon.
 28, Cromarty, British str., from Samarang.
 29, City of Peking, Amr. str., from S. F. cisco.
 29, Impr. of India, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
 29, Kwongsang, British str., from Chinkiang.
 29, Angers, British str., from Singapore.
 29, Lawang, German str., from Kobe.
 29, Tailee, German str., from Saigon.
 29, Myrmidon, British str., from Liverpool.
 29, Kaiser-i-Hind, British str., from Bombay.
 30, Hong Leong, British str., from Saigon.
 30, J. Diedericksen, German str., from Saigon.
 30, Pallas, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
 30, Irene, German str., from Yokohama.

January—DEPARTURES.
 23, Swatow, German str., for Moji.
 23, Namon, British str., for Swatow.
 23, Victoria, British str., for Kobe.
 23, Actis, Danish str., for Hoihow.
 23, Hapeh, British str., for Batavia.
 23, Ask, Danish str., for Haiphong.
 23, Paris, German str., for Taku.
 23, Empr. of China, British str., for Vancouver.
 23, Yarra, French str., for Europe.
 23, Cath. Apeir, British str., for Calcutta.
 23, Pyrrhus, British str., for Amoy.
 23, Peiyang, German str., for Canton.
 24, Airlie, British str., for Sydney.
 24, Decima, German str., for Port Wallut.
 24, Deuteros, German str., for Bangkok.
 24, Mingyi, German str., for Shanghai.
 24, Propontis, British str., for Chinkiang.
 24, Eskdale, British str., for Yokohama.
 24, Formosa, British str., for London.
 24, Riversdale, British str., for Moji.
 24, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 24, Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Guy Mannering, British str., for Saigon.
 25, Kwanglee, British str., for Canton.
 25, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 25, Tsinan, British str., for Foochow.
 25, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 25, Esang, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Glenearn, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Mongkut, British str., for Bangkok.
 25, Straits of Dover, British str., for Moji.
 26, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
 26, Hailong, British str., for Amoy.
 26, Gaelic, British str., for S. Francisco.
 26, Japan, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 27, Chusan, German str., for Nagasaki.
 27, Bayard, British bark, for Callao.
 27, Wm. J. Rotch, Amr. bark, for New York.
 29, Choysang, British str., for Canton.
 29, Frejr, Danish str., for Pakhoi.
 29, Hangchow, British str., for Canton.
 29, Lienshing, British str., for Canton.
 29, Lifoo, German str., for Canton.
 29, Soochow, British str., for Canton.

29, Keemun, British str., for London.
 29, Kwanglee, British str., for Canton.
 29, Nanyang, German str., for Canton.
 29, Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
 30, Rio, German str., for Amoy.
 30, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
 30, Mich. Jabsen, German str., for Haiphong.
 30, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 30, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
 30, Kwongmo, British str., for Amoy.

FOOCHOW.

January—ARRIVALS.
 13, Taku, British str., from Shanghai.
 15, Hailong, British str., from Hongkong.
 19, Fuyi, German str., from Shanghai.

January—DEPARTURES.
 13, Mary Stewart, British bark, for T'wanfoo.
 16, Taku, British str., for Shanghai.
 17, Hailong, British str., for Hongkong.

SHANGHAI.

January—ARRIVALS.
 18, Taiwan, British str., from Hongkong.
 18, Taku, British str., from Foochow.
 18, Choysang, British str., from Hongkong.
 19, Hangchow, British str., from Hongkong.
 19, Pechili, British str., from wreck of *Thiwo*.
 19, Guthrie, British str., from Hongkong.
 19, Keemun, British str., from Japan.
 20, Tenasserim, British str., from New York.
 21, Marie Valerie, Austrian str., from Trieste.
 21, Nanyang, German str., from Hongkong.
 21, Poochi, British str., from Wenchow.
 21, Liting, German str., from Swatow.
 21, Soochow, British str., from Canton.
 21, Paoting, British str., from Canton.
 21, Bjorg, Nor. str., from Moji.
 21, Lucy H. Nickels, Amr. bark, from N. York.
 21, Irene, British str., from Canton.
 22, Fooksang, British str., from Hongkong.
 22, Loksang, British str., from Swatow.
 22, Chiyuen, British str., from Chefoo.
 22, Kungping, British str., from Hongkong.
 23, Newchwang, British str., from Amoy.
 23, Albert, Norw. str., from Nagasaki.
 23, Darmstadt, German str., from Bremen.
 24, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., from H'kong, &c.
 24, Fuyi, German str., from Foochow.
 24, Progress, German str., from Nagasaki.
 24, Tordenskjold, Norw. str., from M. J.
 24, Oolong, British str., from Liverpool.
 24, Geo. F. Manson, Amr. ship, from N. York.
 25, Shengyi, German str., from Swatow.
 25, Wo-ang, British str., from Hongkong.
 25, Kaifong, British str., from Hongkong.

January—DEPARTURES.
 19, Wuchang, British str., for Chinkiang.
 19, Yarra, French str., for Marseilles, &c.
 19, Tongchow, British str., for Chinkiang.
 19, Glenfalloch, British str., for Japan.
 20, Shantung, British str., for Amoy.
 20, Formosa, British str., for Europe.
 20, Tener, British str., for Japan.
 20, Cathay, British str., for Japan.
 20, Hangchow, British str., for Chinkiang.
 21, Kwanglee, British str., for Hongkong.
 21, Loyal, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
 22, Benledi, British str., for London.
 22, Soochow, British str., for Chinkiang.
 22, Nanyang, German str., for Chinkiang.
 22, Kwongsang, British str., for Chinkiang.
 22, Cosmopolit, German str., for Japan.
 22, Peiyang, German str., for Hongkong.
 22, Lyeemoon, German str., for Hongkong.
 22, Taku, British str., for Foochow.
 22, Choysang, British str., for Swatow.
 22, Liting, German str., for Chefoo.
 23, Bjorg, Norw. str., for Moji.
 23, Irene, British str., for Chinkiang.
 23, Loksang, British str., for Moji.
 23, Pathan, British str., for New York.
 23, Ceylon, British str., for Japan.
 24, Lifoo, German str., for Hongkong.
 24, Paoting, British str., for Swatow.
 24, Marie Valerie, Aust. str., for Trieste, &c.
 24, Tillie E. Starbuck, Amr. ship, for H'kong.
 25, Albert, Norw. str., for Nagasaki.
 25, Artillerist, Amr. steam-tug, for Nagasaki.
 25, Keemun, British str., for London.
 25, Newchwang, British str., for Amoy.
 25, Smit, British str., for Kobe.
 25, Smith, Chinese str., for Tamsui.
 25, Store Nordiske, Danish str., for a cruise.
 25, Ernest Simons, French str., for Japan.
 25, Fushuu, German str., for Hongkong.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Japan*, str., from London.—Mr. J. B. Kessler.
 Per *Hailong*, str., from Tamsui, &c.—Messrs. Maher and Wan.
 Per *Haitan*, str., from Coast Ports.—Mr. and Mrs. MacHaffie and child.
 Per *Lyeemoon*, str., from Shanghai.—Miss Fernandez, and Messrs. M. Hechter and H. Keing.
 Per *Choysang*, str., from Shanghai, &c.—Mr. Haeslops.
 Per *Frejr*, str., from Pakhoi, &c.—Mr. Meeling.
 Per *Rio*, str., from Singapore.—Mr. Trätz, and 200 Chinese.
 Per *Taichow*, str., from Bangkok.—Mr. and Mrs. Melzer.
 Per *Rosetta*, str., from Shanghai for Hongkong.—Mrs. Potter and infant, Messrs. D. H. Silas, R. A. Gubbay, E. Luscombe, and Ho Kum Tung. For Singapore.—Messrs. Oscar Martinson and Gartew. For London.—Mr. and Mrs. Pollard and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Donald and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Dixon Rust, Mr. Byrne. For Adelaide.—Mr. Rogers. From Kobe for Brindisi.—Messrs. P. L. Rousseau and Cyril S. Harrison.
 Per *Verona*, str., from Yokohama for Hongkong.—Mr. A. Apear. Surg. Capt. Wolfe, Mr. and Mrs. Wai Chuen and infant. For Singapore.—Mr. and Mrs. Hooper. For Penang.—Dr. Brown. For Ismailia.—General J. C. Smith and Miss Smith. For London.—Mr. Wetherell.
 Per *City of Peking*, str., from San Francisco, &c.—Miss Fannie Hawkins, Miss Laura Reynolds, and Mr. E. V. Thorn.
 Per *Empress of India* str., from Vancouver, &c.—Messrs. S. Komer, J. Cotton Fox, E. T. Mehl, H. Kusakabe, W. H. Decker, J. E. B. Meakin, and Renatars Natto. R. Shepherd, and Miss Shepherd, and Mr. Mackenzie.

DEPARTED.

Per *Empress of China*, str., for Shanghai.—Miss Curling, Messrs. H. Grun, E. Tomlin, A. P. Maligin, W. Powell, Tang Tson Lun, Mr. and Mrs. Nawab Jung, Countess Wickenburg, H. E. Tsui and Mr. Liang Choak Po. For Kobe.—Messrs. Bond, Leung Yew and Achee. For Glasgow.—Dr. and Mrs. Burton and 2 children, Messrs. Jas. and Thos. Burton, Miss Wilson.
 Per *Yarra*, str., from Hongkong for Saigon.—Mr. C. Block. For Singapore.—Mr. G. Litton, Mr. and Mrs. Sukarai. For Colombo.—Mr. G. Levaky. For Aden.—Mr. E. Ricco. For Marseilles.—Mr. C. Schultheys. From Nagasaki for Saigon.—Mr. and Mrs. Homada, Messrs. Chaligne, Le Bars, Hemo and Chausignat. For Alexandria.—Mr. Nebolsine. From Shanghai for Saigon.—Messrs. De Pianelli, Rappelle and Martin. For Alexandria.—Capt. Retzenstein. For Marseilles.—Mr. Grenard.
 Per *Ernest Simons*, str., from Hongkong for Shanghai.—Messrs. E. Becker, E. Engler, E. Polsum and Moler. For Kobe.—Mr. J. B. Gomes, Jr. For Yokohama.—Messrs. C. Wiel and T. Davis. For Shanghai from Marseilles.—Mr. L. Gue. From Saigon.—Messrs. Gallien, Moncler, Jaonen, Laurma, Delene, Malfay, Le Boucher, Caiou, Ellena, Ropars, Taboul, Bourdein, Lagatha, Rondant, and Stephan. For Nagasaki from Marseilles.—Mr. A. Andreff. For Yokohama from Marseilles.—Messrs. Thonime, A. Herbat, Arsano, C. B. Brooke, Mr. and Mrs. Wayles. From Singapore.—Mr. J. T. Hamilton and Mrs. Okeasan.
 Per *Catherine Apear*, str., for Singapore.—Mrs. A. D. Cohen and 2 children, Mr. W. E. Fales and party. For Calcutta.—Messrs. O. Schutte and V. Mathews, Lee-Sergt. A. Barry and Private J. Turner.
 Per *Airlie*, str., for Sydney.—Mr. C. Crane.
 Per *Formosa*, str., from Hongkong for Singapore.—Mr. R. Gutierrez. For London via Marseilles.—Col. G. B. Macdonell, R. A. For Marseilles.—Lieut.-Col. C. St. Paul, R. B. For London.—Rev. and Mrs. Milne and child. From Shanghai for London.—Mrs. C. F. Geddes. From Kobe for Brindisi.—Mr. and Mrs. G. Bruce.
 Per *Gaelic*, str., for Nagasaki.—Miss Otokusar. For Kobe.—Mr. O. Asano. For Yokohama.—Messrs. M. M. Xavier, C. H. Best, James Curtis, and L. Eberlin. For San Francisco.—Dr. and Mrs. Otto and 4 children, Mrs. E. O. Tanlo, Messrs. C. Freeman and Hugh Sutherland.